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THE MAGAZINE OF GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE

the chronicle



SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION
BEYOND THE GREEN CAMPUS



SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION

What makes a college a leader in sustainability? At Georgia Perimeter College, we believe it is a commitment to create citizens who “think green” about our planet and are good stewards of our natural resources. We believe it is recognizing that sustainability extends well beyond recycling—that sustainability should reach into every classroom, from biology to political science. We believe it is creating leaders of tomorrow who will develop green technologies and public policies that keep our planet ecologically and biologically sound for generations to come. I am pleased that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has chosen Georgia Perimeter College to be the nation’s “flagship” model for sustainability education in two-year colleges.

For the past year, GPC faculty, staff and students have met in “sustainability think tanks” to explore how we are teaching sustainability, how we are saving energy in campus facilities and how we are making our communities better places to live.

In this issue of The Chronicle, you’ll read about our efforts and about GPC’s new Southeastern Institute for Sustainable Living & Environmental Studies, which will advocate for integrating sustainability principles and practices across the curriculum, campus operations and student activities. The institute will support community outreach efforts and work with organizations, government agencies and schools to promote principles of sustainability.

These initiatives are helping to shape Georgia Perimeter College as a leader in sustainability education, one that guides students to address environmental challenges of the future.

This magazine also explains how Georgia Perimeter is preparing students for high-demand STEM fields—Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. You’ll read about GPC student athletes’ impressive performance in the classroom as well as on the field and court.

A special feature in this issue is the Georgia Perimeter College Foundation 2010 Annual Report. The GPC Foundation, with the help of your donations, builds invaluable support that opens educational doors for students and empowers GPC to transform lives.

Every day, Georgia Perimeter College raises the bar on engaging students in a 21st century education and preparing them for global demands. We hope you enjoy reading about our progress. We are proud of our successes and hope you are, too!

Anthony S. Tricoli

Dr. Anthony S. Tricoli
President, Georgia Perimeter College

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On The Cover:
Georgia Perimeter College student Khadijat Abdulkadir looks for key aquatic life in a stream at Stone Mountain Park as part of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Adopt-A-Stream training. GPC students plan to adopt a stream abutting the Dunwoody Campus.

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GPC is ramping up its recruitment, support and preparation of critically needed STEM graduates, those majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Four significant grants are helping to bolster those efforts.



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GPC athletes have drawn national notice for stellar performance on the field and on the court. The college’s sports programs also are garnering attention for developing study habits and character that lead student athletes to succeed in the classroom.



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NATIONAL AWARD RECOGNIZES GPC PRESIDENT’S SHARED GOVERNANCE POLICIES

Decision-making is a group exercise at Georgia Perimeter College.

That model received national recognition in June when GPC’s president, Dr. Anthony Tricoli, was named a winner of the American Association of University Professors Ralph S. Brown Award for Shared Governance. He is the first two-year college president—and one of only six college presidents nationally—ever to receive the award.

The AAUP presents the award only when an individual’s accomplishments in the area of shared governance are identified as “outstanding.” The award was last presented in 2007.

The AAUP commended Tricoli for his “accomplishments in making governance at Georgia Perimeter College a collegial and collaborative endeavor.” The selection committee was impressed by “the substance and the spirit of the governance system in place

at the college,” as confirmed by those who nominated the president.

Tricoli focuses on inclusivity as an integral component of shared governance. Rather than establishing numerous permanent standing committees, he holds open forums and creates temporary, targeted “think tanks” and task teams to address short-term issues and to allow more individuals to participate in GPC’s governance.

“Those who will be impacted by a decision participate in making the decision,” points out Margee Bright Ragland, chair of the college’s Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate was joined this year by the newly-created Staff Senate. Chairs of both groups serve with the college’s vice presidents and president as voting members on the President’s Cabinet and the President’s Policy Advisory Board.



GPC President Dr. Anthony Tricoli, center; Dr. Larry Gerber, chair of the AAUP Committee on College & University Governance, and Dr. Beth Jensen, GPC director of governance and policy, display the prestigious award.

Students also have a voice at GPC, and Tricoli has increased their representation on governance groups. Each of GPC’s five policy councils now includes at least two student representatives.

GPC JOINS PARTNERSHIP TO REVIVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN DEMOCRACY

Georgia Perimeter College wants its students to experience democracy up close and personally—not just in theory.

That is the goal of The Democracy Commitment, a national initiative to get community college students actively engaged in civic learning and democratic practice beyond the ballot box.

GPC’s President Dr. Anthony Tricoli recently signed on as one of 23 U.S. community college presidents who will be involved with the national partnership.

“The Democracy Commitment was designed to help revive the civic learning and democratic engagement of Americans,” Tricoli says.

That objective seems to have lost its emphasis in higher education over the years, notes Dr. Sean Brumfield, GPC’s executive director of the Atlanta Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning. A U.S. Census report indicates that 41.5 percent of all Americans ages 18-24 didn’t even register to vote for the November 2008 president election. For young people who do vote, their involvement often ends there.

“The Democracy Commitment objective is for students to participate in the democratic process on a deeper, more experiential level through service learning and civic engagement,” Brumfield says. “Then, they will more

likely continue to participate in such activities after they graduate.”

GPC also will convene a regional meeting of two-year colleges from surrounding states.

“We hope to engage them in a conversation about the importance of integrating democratic thinking into the curriculum, as well as spreading the word about the Democracy Commitment,” Brumfield says.

The program is modeled after the American Democracy Project, a coalition of public state colleges and universities. Tricoli will attend a November event to officially kick off the initiative.



Southern Academy chair Liam Madden, left, leads discussion with authors, Lora Mirza and Dr. Paul Hudson.

STONE MOUNTAIN BOOK BY GPC AUTHORS DEBUTS AT SOUTHERN ACADEMY EVENT

Stone Mountain. The world’s largest mass of exposed granite located in eastern DeKalb County is part nature conservancy, part Confederate memorial and part tourist attraction.

A new book by Georgia Perimeter College colleagues Melora “Lora” Mirza and Dr. Paul Hudson shows that Stone Mountain’s history is even more varied than its current persona.

“Atlanta’s Stone Mountain: A Multicultural History,” was unveiled June 15 on GPC’s Clarkston Campus. The college’s Southern Academy for Literary Arts and Scholarly Research sponsored the evening, and academy chair Liam Madden moderated a discussion with the authors.

“The book brings to life the rocky struggle of social and environmental justice, racial harmony and the ideals of freedom that make America a great place to live,” says Hermina Glass-Avery, formerly of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State University.

“The research was like going on a treasure hunt,” says Mirza, a research librarian. “From Paleo-Indians to Europeans to African-Americans, the mountain speaks to everyone.”

The authors’ research led them to stories of the mountain’s quarry industry, the Confederate heroes carving that was nearly 60 years in the making, the Native Americans who gathered centuries ago and the Ku Klux Klan members who met there in the 1900s.

“It is life-affirming today to see so many people from so many different backgrounds gather at the park,” says Hudson, a history professor.



George Sanko shows GPC’s botanical garden to British and American fern experts during a tour in June.

Georgia Perimeter College was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction. It is the nation’s highest honor in the community-service sector: GPC was recognized specifically for its many service-learning projects. ... Professor emeritus George Sanko, creator of GPC’s botanical garden on Decatur Campus, has received the National Garden Club’s Award of Excellence. ... George Vargis, political science professor and master faculty advisor, won the 2011 National Academic Advising Association Outstanding Advising Award, while Student Affairs counselor Amy LaRocca was named a merit recipient of the group’s Outstanding New Advisor Award. ... Georgia Perimeter’s business department chairs are winners of The Chair Academy’s International Exemplary Leader Award. The award is based primarily on the student clubs and activities the chairs sponsor for students. ... Barbara Obrentz, GPC’s director of Marketing and Public Relations, was named the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations “Communicator of the Year.” ... RateMyProfessors.com has ranked GPC math professor Dr. Marjorie “Margie” Lewkowicz as the top community college instructor in the nation. The website ranking is based on student ratings. ... GPC President Dr. Anthony Tricoli has been asked to serve on the Presidents’ Trust, a leadership group of the national Liberal Education and America’s Promise initiative, also known as LEAP. ... Barbara Brooks, Auxiliary Services, received the National Association of College Auxiliary Services’ Volunteer of the Year Award.



Prescription for Good Health Care: Edelwisa Jacinto is among eight Georgia Perimeter College nursing students selected to work as nurse externs this summer at Gwinnett Medical Center. The students were paired with nurse preceptors, who work with them one-on-one to help them refine their nursing skills.

DAVID CROMER 2011 COLE FELLOW CHERISHES GPC HONOR AND ITS NAMESAKE

by Rebecca Rakoczy

He loves the blues, drives a Harley, sports a ponytail and wears a leather vest with the biblical verse John 12:36 and the nickname “Lil Crum” embroidered on the back. He’s a former Marine but did not serve in Vietnam because a 55-gallon oil drum crushed his foot. He teaches his students to read Kate Chopin, Richard Wright and Walt Whitman and cites Gabriel Garcia Marquez as his favorite author.

GPC English professor David Cromer presents a conundrum of impressions—and is not easily impressed. But when he was named the 2011 Cole Fellow by his GPC colleagues, he was truly surprised. “It is really humbling to win the award with the man’s name on it. He’s one of the finest human beings I’ve known in my life.”

Cromer’s relationship with former college president Dr. Marvin C. Cole

began more than 20 years ago, when he was a new English instructor at the college. “It was during an orientation for new faculty hires, and he asked us to introduce ourselves and tell something about ourselves that was not average. Cole started off by saying that “Huckleberry Finn was the best book of all time,” he recalls.

With his curly gray hair and distinctive mustache, Cole has an amazing resemblance to Mark Twain; and he has parlayed that into a successful stage storyteller career as the famed author.

Cromer was not intimidated, though. “When it came to be my turn, I said, ‘well, I’m from Missouri, and that’s baseball country; and I don’t care for college football, and I teach English—and by the way, Huck Finn couldn’t be the best book that was ever written.’”

His statement made Cole laugh. “We’ve been friends ever since,” says Cromer, now associate professor of English and assistant department chair on Decatur Campus.

As the Cole Fellow, Cromer will carry the mace and lead the GPC convocation and graduation ceremonies.

When announcing the Cole Fellow

award, Dr. Alan Jackson, vice president of Academic Affairs, said Cromer “is said to be a rare instructor who has struck an impressive balance among teaching, service and development ... who presents his students with real-life applications, scenarios and problems by using a variety of teaching tools. A former student said, ‘He made me believe in myself,’ and another said, ‘he encouraged me to do things I didn’t think I could.’”

Cole said Cromer’s talent for teaching stands out. “David goes beyond disseminating information in his teaching and rises to give his students an ‘on-the-other-hand’ experience,” says Cole. “Anyone can pass out knowledge, but a ‘teacher’ is rare. David is a teacher.”

When he’s not inspiring future writers, Cromer sometimes rides his Harley to visit Cole at his home in Asheville, N.C. The playful needling that Cromer started is still a part of the friendship.

“I call him cantankerous, and he calls me surly,” Cromer says.

Cromer adds, “By the way, I do love Huck Finn. It’s the most American book I’ve ever read. I will give the old man credit for that. But don’t tell him.”

Photo by Bill Rao

STUDENT SUCCESS PROJECT HELPS GPC NURSING STUDENTS EXCEL

Georgia Perimeter College has among the highest retention and graduation rates for nursing students in the University System of Georgia, thanks in part to a Student Success Project grant from the Board of Regents.

The \$140,097 grant, first awarded in 2007 to GPC and 15 other USG institutions, was part of a three-year plan to help students succeed in their nursing programs. The project was created to aid Georgia in addressing predicted losses in bedside nurses.

Georgia Perimeter has posted impressive results. From fiscal year 2006 to 2010, GPC more than tripled its graduation numbers for nursing students, an increase higher than that of any of the other USG institutions that received the first grant. That success prompted the BOR to award the college a second grant for \$140,097 to be used over the three years beginning July 2011.

“We’ve been able to grow our numbers



Dr. Rebecca Craig, right, assists students Jennifer Higgins, left, and Maria Holder in the Nursing tutorial lab.

in graduation rates and still maintain quality,” says Dr. Diane E. White, GPC’s dean of Health Sciences. She says the program now graduates about 165 nurses a year.

To help retain nursing students, the grant pays for a standardized software package that features skills-building activities and extensive online resources,

including real-time, on-screen tutors. The grant also allows GPC to hire a science tutor to assist students in learning pathophysiology of diseases—the functional changes associated with disease or injury.

As part of the Student Success Project, students must take standardized exit tests for each course. If a student fails a standardized test, a prescriptive study plan is completed to help the student. The resource package is also used to help students who score low on other nursing course exams.

The BOR grant provides stipends to faculty who contribute to course activities that support student success and to faculty who mentor instructors new to teaching.

“We know that mentoring new faculty and retention of faculty, along with activities that foster student engagement, promote student success,” says White.

GPC STRENGTHENS SERVICE TO MILITARY

Georgia Perimeter College is improving how it serves active duty military and veterans, thanks in part to the extension of a federally-funded College Access Challenge grant from the University System of Georgia.

An estimated 1,000 military students, veterans and family members are enrolled at GPC. The college is becoming more military-inclusive, says Col. Robert Knowles Jr., a Vietnam veteran and coordinator of the GPC Military Outreach Center.

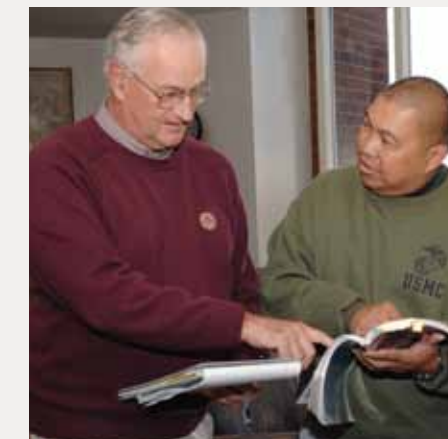
Extension of the \$20,000 grant that helped establish the outreach center earlier this year, is allowing the college

to strengthen processes.


“We want to help them with any problems that may hinder their transition into college life or get in the way of completing their degree,” says Knowles.

GPC also is establishing mechanisms to track the number of military and veteran applicants, their retention and graduation success rates.

Knowles is working with faculty and administrators to develop ways for returning veterans to complete courses online if they are redeployed. An orientation video about the outreach center has been developed, as well as a stronger web presence.



Marine veteran Frank Acfalle, right, reviews class notes with his professor, Dr. Thomas Graham.



GPC Geology student Kathryn Hogan takes a reading from her Brunton compass to mark the location of an old granite engraving on Stone Mountain. The exercise is part of geology professor Dr. Pamela Gore's sustainability project to document the carvings before they erode.

Sustainability in Higher Education

GPC moves beyond the green campus.

BY REBECCA RAKOCZY

Photo by Bill Roa

Georgia Perimeter College is redefining what it means to be green.

Students are testing public streams for pollution and designing decks for solar panels. They're surveying insect populations and removing invasive plants, researching energy-saving transportation and starting recycling programs, spearheading projects with national groups such as Rivers Alive and partnering with high schools to build organic gardens.

GPC faculty are looking at how sustainable issues affect every discipline.

From communication to geology, faculty are weaving sustainable living topics into daily lessons and curricula, as well as drawing up plans for new programs of study. College facilities staff are measuring energy use and adopting reduction plans.

Most recently, Georgia Perimeter College established the Southeastern Institute for Sustainable Living and Environmental Studies to bring its sustainability programs all under one roof.

These hallmarks of Georgia Perimeter's efforts to develop a sustainable campus and share its resources with the community are gaining even more strength, thanks to a new, groundbreaking partnership between the college and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The federal agency chose GPC to be the nation's "flagship" for sustainability education in community colleges.

"GPC will be a model for sustainability education for other community colleges across the nation," says Jewell Harper, senior advisor for environmental literacy for EPA, Region 4, which represents eight Southeastern states.

"We're interested in growing a robust universe of people we can hire who understand that maintaining a sustainable living environment is interdisciplinary—it's about the environment and science, but also about political science and social science and policy-making; it's about history and English," she says. "We want the American public to understand this. The college's sustainability initiatives will help the EPA develop community engagement educational programs nationwide."

That's a mission the college can embrace, says Dr. Anthony Tricoli, GPC president. "We want to teach our students to be good stewards of our natural resources. But we also understand that sustainability is more than just recycling paper and collecting plastic bottles. It is also what is happening in the classroom. We are working to infuse issues of environmental sustainability into every area of our curriculum. This partnership strengthens our ability to do that—and to share our knowledge with other two-year institutions."

Dr. Joanne Chu, GPC's new director of sustainable living and environmental studies, is looking forward to working on this endeavor with faculty, students and staff. She and Dr. Tyrie Smith, director of new program development, plan to follow a best practices model from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and hope to increase

environmental literacy.

"I like to see sustainability issues and problem solving approaches across the curriculum broadly; addressing the needs of our communities, the needs of the faculty and the students," Chu says. "Whenever a faculty member has an interest in sustainability or sees a student's interest in sustainability, my goal is to help them get the resources they need to make that happen."

"The EPA memorandum of understanding will get our students engaged in community issues under the larger umbrella of sustainability," Chu says. "On an urban campus, these issues often are issues of environmental justice and can include health disparities in disenfranchised communities, like obesity, the impact of dirty air on childhood asthma and the effects of soil contamination on health."

"The cool thing about my position being housed in the Atlanta Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning is that we are making service learning a practical component to sustainability education," she says. "Sustainability education is grounded in experiential learning—students learn to work with real world problems by engaging with such issues in our communities. Their successes and enthusiasm will foster continued citizen engagement with community issues."

Enthusiasm for sustainability already resides at GPC. Khadijat Abdulkadir's student-led group, GPC Engaged, became certified as Adopt-A-Stream volunteers, working with the state Department of Natural Resources to test the health of local streams and rivers, including those abutting Dunwoody Campus. Student Nurwina Mayors works with the college's Earth Club to educate others about recycling resources. "I want to try and spread the word and contribute as much as possible... I'm passionate about this," she says.

For the past year, faculty, staff and students participated in campus forums, providing input to the college's president on the current sustainable practices, as well as learning about new ideas for creating greener campuses. During the forums, sustainability directors from Emory University and Georgia Tech shared their ideas with the GPC faculty.

"We've created a cultural shift in the way we look at sustainability and its impact on the environment and education," Tricoli says. On the drawing table are two new programs of study: one in sustainable living and environmental studies and a business degree that emphasizes models of sustainability in a global economy.

Helping faculty incorporate sustainable living practices into GPC's academic curriculum is a natural extension of the college's Atlanta Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning, says Dr. Sean Brumfield, the center's executive director. "There is so much interest from faculty who want to promote sustainability so students can become better stewards of the earth."

GPC anthropology professor Ernie Guyton talks to his classes about the consequences that occur when a society



Photo courtesy of GPC Engaged Club



Photo by Sam Powers



does not sustain itself. “There are connections between economic development, political choices and technology. A culture’s philosophical and religious world view all come into play when we talk about understanding environmental impact and sustainability,” he says.

For example, an emerging industrialized country with a burgeoning population needs wood for homes and buildings; deforestation occurs, which can lead to excessive soil erosion, which leads to run-off and water contamination in rivers, lakes and aquifers. Only when the damage gets severe enough might a society alter its core values to adapt a more sustainable strategy to maintain these finite resources, he says.

Dr. Arla Bernstein, a GPC communications professor, was a former environmental planner for the Atlanta Regional Commission. It seemed “very natural,” she says, that she would weave sustainability issues into her core course curriculum. Every semester, her students create videos and present posters to the Atlanta Regional Commission—and to the Dunwoody Campus community—to communicate the issues of water conservation, air quality, alternative means of transportation and walkable neighborhoods.

“The purpose of these posters and videos is to increase public awareness, and the environmental principles embodied and fostered by the ARC,” Bernstein says.

“To remain a vibrant, livable community, the Atlanta region relies on partnerships and collaborations, bringing the best minds to bear on the issues and challenges we face,” says Emerson Bryan, interim director of the ARC. “The work that Georgia Perimeter College students have done to support ‘I’m In,’ a region-wide water conservation campaign, is a great example. Their efforts are helping to raise awareness among college students of the importance of using water wisely and well.”

Other faculty are incorporating environmental issues into their subject matter. GPC Spanish instructor Stephanie Langston teaches the impact of non-sustainable practices in countries such as Chile.

“Sustainability is not anti-development,” says GPC environmental science professor Dr. Gerald Pollack. “It is any activity that enables the next generation—and the generation after that—to live in the way they are accustomed to. It is developing better technologies and ways of living so that the Earth will be here ecologically and biologically for generations to come.”

Pollack’s environmental science students—and Danny Kanso, a 12th-grade Dual Enrollment student at GPC Dunwoody Campus—are helping Dunwoody High School’s ninth-grade biology students build a greenhouse and plant seedlings in an organic garden this fall. Pollack hopes the program will be expanded to Peachtree Middle School by fall 2012.

The college also has created partnerships with



(Top left) Dr. Jonathan Lochamy works with biology students to identify insects and plants in Stone Mountain Park’s Songbird Habitat. (Top right) The GPC Engaged student club spent a Saturday “Sweeping the Hooch,” collecting trash along the Chattahoochee River. (Above) Students in an Adopt-A-Stream project find a crawfish in a Stone Mountain Park stream; its presence is one sign of a stream’s health.



(Top left) GPC study abroad students, including Clarence Williams III, learned sustainable agriculture practices from Greek farmers during their trip. (Top right) Students in Dr. Arla Bernstein’s course research environmental issues, create posters and present them to the Dunwoody community and Atlanta Regional Commission. (Above) GPC student Kenneth Grady tests pond water at Dunwoody Campus.

the DeKalb Academy for Technology and the Environment and Arabia Mountain High School for sustainability projects this year.

SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIPS

GPC students already are benefiting from environmental community partnerships. One of the largest, involving metro Atlanta’s Stone Mountain Park, was forged in 2010 with the Atlanta Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning at GPC and the Stone Mountain Park Center for Environmental Education. Students from GPC study the native species of plants, animals and insects in the area; help maintain trails; monitor erosion of carvings; remove invasive plants and catalog the park’s hundreds of native species into a national database. They upload the information to www.discoverlife.org for others to view. A GPC group recently went on a “bee hunt” for a specific bee, the absence of which could point to environmental changes.

The work being planned “dovetails nicely with our vision to be a transformational park for visitors by engaging the community in the park and developing partnerships,” says Naomi Thompson, education supervisor at the park. “This partnership will help with our commitment to sustaining a park with diverse environments and learning opportunities.”

GPC’s emphasis on sustainability will aid students as they enter a marketplace geared to green jobs. That’s one reason behind GPC’s collaboration with

DeKalb Technical College’s Green Technology Academy.

“This collaboration is working because our students at DeKalb Tech are skilled at building things but weaker on the theories behind the technology,” said Brian Lovell, director of DTC’s Green Tech Academy and a former GPC student. “GPC students are strong in theory but don’t get the understanding that only comes from seeing a physical representation of what they have designed. Students at both colleges benefit from this collaboration.”

In one recent activity, GPC students designed a 60-by-25-foot platform that will house solar panels and other green tech devices at DeKalb Tech.

“GPC students calculated the position of the sun throughout the day and accounted for shadows cast by buildings to determine the optimal position for each solar panel,” Lovell said. “When the deck was completed, some GPC students said they never imagined they would see something they designed actually built.”

WALKING THE WALK

With GPC’s sustainability initiative, students will see shifts in the culture of the college, including campus “green” efforts, says Tricoli. “Students have been at the forefront of our recycling efforts,” he says. “But if we don’t back up what we’re saying with what they’re seeing on campus, then it will be pointless. We must walk our talk.”



(Top left) Students and staff initiated a recycling program at GPC's Alpharetta Center. (Top right) From left, GPC volunteers Jennifer Jenkins, Barry Gwilt and student Alexander Sok sort lunch leftovers; they recycled 200 pounds of plastic, paper and cardboard and sent 60 pounds of leftovers to chickens at Gwilt's local farm. (Above) Newton Campus faculty and staff participate in the Great American Cleanup 2011.

Energy-saving initiatives are already in place, thanks to GPC energy analyst Wade Henry and members of the college's plant operations team. Henry actively tracks energy usage on all of GPC's campuses, 24-7, from computer monitors in his office and at home. He watches for unusual spikes and pinpoints problems with heating and air systems almost immediately. Because of these efforts, GPC now ranks second in the University System of Georgia for its low energy bills; only the University of Georgia, which manufactures its own bio-fuel, ranks higher.

Energy savings on campus makes sense—and cents—as it relates to the bottom line, too. The college has been changing to low-usage compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) light fixtures, installing double-paned windows and starting campus-wide energy audits. Changing the college-wide set-point temperature by one degree has saved \$1,000 a day for the college.

Turning off computer monitor screens when not in use and unplugging cell phone chargers are other simple changes that can reap savings, Henry says.

GPC's online classes are naturally energy-efficient by eliminating the need to heat and cool a classroom and by curtailing transportation costs for the instructor and students. With almost 10,000 students taking online classes, GPC's largest "campus" soon will be its online learners. That reduces emissions in the air, saves fossil fuels, generates energy savings and reduces traffic, says Tricoli.

Creating a college community in which everyone thinks about sustainability won't occur all at once, the president says. "I believe we will be working on "shades" of green at first, he says.

Tricoli is looking forward to efforts of the college's new Southeastern Institute for Sustainable Living and Environmental Studies under the umbrella of the Atlanta Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning. Among its goals are to support campus, community and statewide sustainability initiatives, create more service-learning and individual research projects for students and help develop a sustainable living and environmental studies curriculum.

Chu says sustainability efforts in colleges across the nation include forging partnerships between academics and facilities operations to heighten awareness. This already has begun at GPC.

"There is a new twist that is happening all over the country between facilities and academics that has never happened before," she says. "We are eliminating the silos and learning to speak each other's language. We have a common mission: we live on one planet and share an ecosystem."

"This is such an important initiative, we simply can't ignore it," Tricoli says. "If our students don't learn about sustainable issues while they are with us in college, then when will they? The time has come for GPC to take the lead, and we've stepped up to the plate with the intention of hitting a grand slam." 🍀

PERSONALITIES

WALTER CRAWFORD A STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

by Kat Friedmann

He walks the halls and passes in between buildings briskly, offering a wide grin and greetings to passersby while glancing up and down from his smartphone. Usually he's in a jacket or shirt and tie, presenting the image of a young professional—important and busy. Step closer, and you'll find that Walter Crawford is a 20-year-old student en route to his next class.

Crawford, a Georgia Perimeter College alumnus transferring to the University of Georgia, believes you can tell where a person is going to be five years from now based on the books he reads and the company he keeps. If true, Crawford could be headed to a Fortune 500 executive suite.

His epiphany occurred in high school. Crawford attended private school until ninth grade, when he switched to the public system. After two years of seeing his peers fail to make a difference in society, he decided to make drastic changes to ensure his future.

"I made a lot of changes," says Crawford.

"I started to change the base of people I spent my time with, meaning my mentors, advisors and friends."

He started wearing a shirt and tie a few days a week. By the time he was a senior, he was wearing a suit almost every day.

Crawford, who is from the Stone Mountain area, chose Georgia Perimeter because it was an affordable fit where he could strengthen his math and science grades and prepare for his professional career. He also could make a meaningful impact in the community, he says.

"During my whole time at Perimeter, my goal was to not only succeed academically. I wanted to see an added value to the community and an added value to Georgia Perimeter College," Crawford says.

Crawford maintained his career look while at GPC.

"I wanted to establish a brand for myself so that when people see me, instantly they're going to think professional," he says. It worked.

"Because I dress like this, people think I'm smart. People think I can get things done. I started to see that while I was in school, a lot of opportunities came to me that a lot of other students didn't get," Crawford says.

While at GPC, Crawford contributed to The Collegian student newspaper, served as a Presidential Ambassador, worked with administrators on college projects and started a peer mentoring program called Stratea. He placed in the top 10 of more than 1,200 competitors at a Delta Epsilon Chi Association (DECA) national competition, with an entry based on human resource case studies he conducted. He also received the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award for Emerging Leaders.

This fall, Crawford, who began attending GPC in 2009, moves to the University of Georgia, where he will switch his focus from human resources to operations management.

He also plans to get involved with a campus group, secure an internship with Coca-Cola and start a life skills coaching program with a local high school.

His passion for people, his discipline and a focus on "setting a new standard for the future" have helped guide him thus far.

"You have to have discipline," Crawford says. "Part of that discipline is saying no to certain things so that you can say yes to a few things. It can be setting your life in order for your most strategic objectives." 🍀

GPC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2011 AWARD WINNERS

The Georgia Perimeter College Alumni Association recently honored two alumni and two faculty members for their achievements and service.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Georgia Perimeter College's Distinguished Alumnus of the Year award went to Joshilyn Jackson, author of four novels, including "The Girl Who Stopped Swimming" and "Backseat Saints."

Jackson completed an associate's degree at GPC in theater and communications, moving on to Georgia State University for her bachelor's degree and the University of Illinois at Chicago for her master's in English.

In addition to her writing, Jackson—who lives with her family in metro Atlanta—teaches writing classes and seminars nationwide and works on women's literacy issues.

Anna Schachner, associate professor of English, says Jackson "exemplifies the kind of leadership that ripples, spreading from her writing to her service and then back to her family where it is exponentially reinforced. She has always credited the college for helping her choose writing as her vocation, and we should not only benefit from that—as we have—but celebrate it."

OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS —EMERGING LEADER

The 2011 recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus—Emerging Leader Award is Walter Crawford.

"No one in my 20 years as a professor and college administrator comes close to his dedication to excellence in every aspect of his life," says business professor

Dr. Debra Moon.

Crawford was highly active at GPC, serving on the student justice court, contributing to The Collegian student newspaper and working closely with college administrators on special projects.

During the summer, he worked as an intern for AT&T in product development. This fall, he continues his education at the University of Georgia, majoring in business and concentrating on business operations.

(See profile on Crawford on page 11.)

OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBER

Nursing professor Sarah Keeling is the 2011 Outstanding Faculty Member.

For 10 years, Keeling has served as the advisor to GPC's Association of Nursing Students. She participates in the National Organization for Associate Degree Nurses and contributes articles to the Georgia Association for Nursing Education newsletter.

"Aside from sharing her knowledge with us, perhaps the most profound impact Mrs. Keeling makes on her students is her sheer enthusiasm for the profession of nursing," says Kathy Smiley, nursing alumni board member.

OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBER —RETIRED

Patricia Zrolka is this year's retired Outstanding Faculty Member.

Zrolka retired in 2010 after 20 years of teaching math at DeKalb College and GPC. While serving the college, she received the Outstanding Teaching Award for Decatur Campus and a National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Teaching



(Top) Author Joshilyn Jackson, left, receives the Distinguished Alumnus award from Zaire Fletcher of the alumni association. (Above) Walter Crawford was recognized as the Outstanding Alumni-Emerging Leader.

Excellence Award. Zrolka also was named a Cole Fellow, the highest honor of faculty achievement that GPC delegates.

"Mathematics is rarely our students' favorite subject, but Pat Zrolka was extremely popular with students because of their outstanding rate of success in her classes, as well as her benevolent, no-nonsense approach to teaching," says Ted Wadley, English Department chair.



GPC students, front to back, D'jillisser Kelly, Nicole Weeden and Joseph Schulte, clean walls at Clarkston Community Center during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

Upcoming Alumni Events

For information about Georgia Perimeter College alumni events and to purchase tickets, visit gpc.edu/Alumni. Connect with us on Facebook at facebook.com/gpcalumni and on Twitter @gpc_alumni.

Jan. 1

New Year at the Georgia Dome

Alumni, students, faculty and staff are invited to ring in the New Year with discounted tickets to see the Atlanta Falcons challenge the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Kickoff is at 1 p.m.

Jan. 16

MLK Day of Service

Join GPC faculty, staff, students and friends as you participate in local service projects.

Feb. 7

Alumni Enrichment Series

As part of a three-part series, the alumni association brings you tips, hints and help on managing your personal financial goals.

Feb. 11

GPC Night at Gwinnett Arena

Join us for a discounted night of board-slammung hockey excitement when the Gwinnett Gladiators take on the Chicago Express.

April

GPC Night at Philips Arena

Cheer on the Hawks at Philips Arena with fellow alumni, faculty, staff and students. (Date to be announced. Check website for details.)

May 4

Golf Tournament

Head to the green at Château Élan for the 2012 George Fellows Memorial Golf Tournament. Enjoy a full day of golf, complete with an upscale dinner. Visit gpc.edu/Foundation/golftourney2011.htm for information.

6 things to know



What Every Alumnus Should Know About GPC

Georgia Perimeter College has an estimated 350,000 alumni throughout the nation and world, and we want your involvement. Here are quick notes on what being a GPC alumnus really means.

1. If you completed one credit hour at DeKalb College, DeKalb Community College or Georgia Perimeter College, you qualify as an alumnus. Visit gpc.edu/Alumni to learn more about joining the Alumni Association. Annual membership dues are only \$25.
2. The Office of Alumni Relations plans social, philanthropic and educational events throughout the year. Find out more at giving.gpc.edu/alumni-events.
3. Take pride in your school's growth. GPC is not only the largest two-year college in Georgia; it is ranked in the Top 100 colleges in the United States, based on the number of associate degrees it awards. In 2010-2011, GPC awarded 1,499 degrees.
4. Being part of the Georgia Perimeter College community has its benefits, literally—including discounts on sporting events and Atlanta's top restaurants. Visit gpc.edu/Alumni/alumniassociationbenefits.html.
5. Need resources for a tough project? If you're an alumnus, you still have access to the GPC Libraries. Visit gpc.edu/library.
6. Have you landed a promotion or welcomed an addition to the family? Send us news on our easily accessible platforms:

Facebook: facebook.com/gpcalumni

Twitter: twitter.com/gpc_alumni

NetCommunity: giving.gpc.edu

Email: alumni@gpc.edu



Three's the charm: From left, GPC nursing instructor Fay Kilgore, GPC nursing alum Kathy Smiley and associate professor of nursing Sarah Keeling enjoy a reunion at the nursing alumni dinner.

ON THE MONEY: GPC ALUMNI, FACULTY AND STAFF SHARE FINANCIAL TIPS

by Jenn Mason

Economic uncertainty is almost a certainty these days.

“Look at current events—turmoil in the Middle East, politicians arguing over the budget, a volatile stock market,” says Mike Sullivan, Edward Jones financial advisor and 1999 Georgia Perimeter College graduate.

Still, with discipline and focus, personal finances need not suffer, say GPC alumni, faculty and staff with financial expertise.

“What can you control?” asks Sullivan. “You have to focus on that.”

“One of the most important things individuals can control is a personal budget,” says Robin Winston, director of student financial services at GPC. Through financial literacy outreach programs for students and the community, Winston and her staff emphasize the importance of comparing needs and wants.

GPC alumnus and accountant Chris Baker suggests keeping all receipts and entering them into a spreadsheet such as Excel. “Then you can easily see where your money goes and what your weak spots are as far as spending too much,” he says.

Here are a few other tips for life’s stages.

YOUR 20S: COLLEGE AND FUTURE

Sean Mann, a 28-year-old GPC alumnus who works for a nonprofit organization, says his biggest financial priorities are paying off debt and saving for the future.

“I took out a private student loan in my senior year of college,” Mann said. In retrospect, he could have done without the \$10,000 loan.

Be extremely cautious about debt, even college loans, Sullivan says. “When you graduate, you may have a tough time getting a job A lot of things can happen.”

Once you have your degree in hand and are looking for that first, full-time job, consider more than salary. Check out the 401K plan, advises Dr. Debra Moon, GPC associate professor of business.

Early savers benefit from compounding interest and employer matching contributions, says Ingrid Thompson-Sellers, head of GPC’s business department. “You should be making the maximum contribution. You have the advantage of time.”

YOUR 30S: HOME INVESTMENTS

GPC alumnus Sean Pitman, 32, has watched the real estate crisis.

“With inconsistent home values and an unstable economy, that’s my biggest financial concern—the value of my home,” he says.

For those considering purchasing a home in this buyer’s market, Moon’s advice is to save at least a 20 percent down payment. And consider other costs, such as maintenance.

Aim for a 15-year mortgage over the 30-year product, if you can handle higher monthly payments, says Sullivan. It will save thousands in interest costs.

Also, while a house is considered an investment, a car is not. “Don’t borrow money for cars,” Sullivan advises.

YOUR 40S: COLLEGE FOR THE KIDS

When alumna Lou Blankenship, 48, and her husband bought Florida coast property, they envisioned selling it later and using the profits on college for their children, now ages 22, 17 and 16.

“Due to the real estate market bombing and current economic situation, our property has been on the market for over six years,” Blankenship said. “We also lost rental income due to hurricane forecasts and the Gulf oil spill.”

If savings or investments don’t turn out the way you expected, seek the best value

for your educational dollars. State schools are a good option, says Sullivan, who earned his bachelor’s degree at Georgia State University. “You’re going to do more for your family by staying out of debt.”

YOUR 50S: EYEING RETIREMENT

At age 53, alumna Marilyn Burnett thinks about retirement.

Sullivan’s advice: “Keep putting money away. Be careful on investments—you want to lower your risk tolerance at this point. Look at when you want to retire, and consider bonds, short-term investments and CDs.”

Those late in preparing for retirement can seek guidance. “A financial advisor will be able to look at your goals, your Social Security pay out, your pension and your investments to predict your income in retirement,” Sullivan says.

YOUR 60S: MANAGING YOUR MONEY

Ron Shaw was in the first graduating class of DeKalb College, GPC’s predecessor. He retired from DeKalb County in 2006 but works part-time at Georgia Perimeter as a student advisor.

“My biggest financial concern is that, for whatever reason, I might not be able to have enough money to exist, to pay my bills,” Shaw says.

Sullivan suggests that retirees look at money in three categories: money for now (checking account), money for later (investments, IRA, 401K) and money for never (savings you hope not to need).

Specifics vary, but core financial advice rarely changes.

“If anything, this economic meltdown has brought us back to the basics,” Moon says. “Live within your means, save for the future and don’t buy into conspicuous consumption. These concepts were as valuable centuries ago as they are today.”

DR. MARJORIE LEWKOWICZ
UNLOCKING MATH’S MAGIC

by Roger Barnes

Helping students discover the “joy, wonder and beauty” of mathematics may seem an astronomical goal, but Georgia Perimeter College math professor Dr. Marjorie Lewkowicz has a reputation for doing just that.

“I truly thought of changing my major to math,” says Fanella O’Brien, a computer science major who took a math class with Lewkowicz. “You walk into her classroom, and all you want to do is learn. It’s because of her spirit and her attitude. Her teaching method is different; she knows how to touch people.”

Jan Caldwell, who returned to college after being out of school for 25 years, adds, “When you ask an older student about returning to college, the first thing they tell you is they are afraid of math. On my very first day of class, Professor Lewkowicz said,

‘It’s OK. You can do this.’ Her confidence instilled confidence in me. She’s amazing.”

“Dr. Lewkowicz loves math, and she wanted us to love math, too,” says former student Zaire Fletcher. “She always made algebra relatable to everyday situations. By the time the semester was over, we understood the concepts of math, and it didn’t seem like a foreign language anymore.”

Math is so much more than just rules and procedures to be memorized, Lewkowicz says. “My most memorable moments occur when I see the ‘light’ go on for struggling students, when they finally begin to understand math, to see how logical math is, how everything fits together.”

Earlier this year Lewkowicz was ranked the top community college professor in the nation on RateMyProfessor.com. Lewkowicz says she is honored and credits the RateMyProfessor.com ranking to being part of a great team at Georgia Perimeter.

“My colleagues are true, dedicated professionals who are a constant source of inspiration,” she says. “I feel very fortunate to work at a place like GPC, a real family

atmosphere, where everyone works together for a common goal, to help students succeed.”

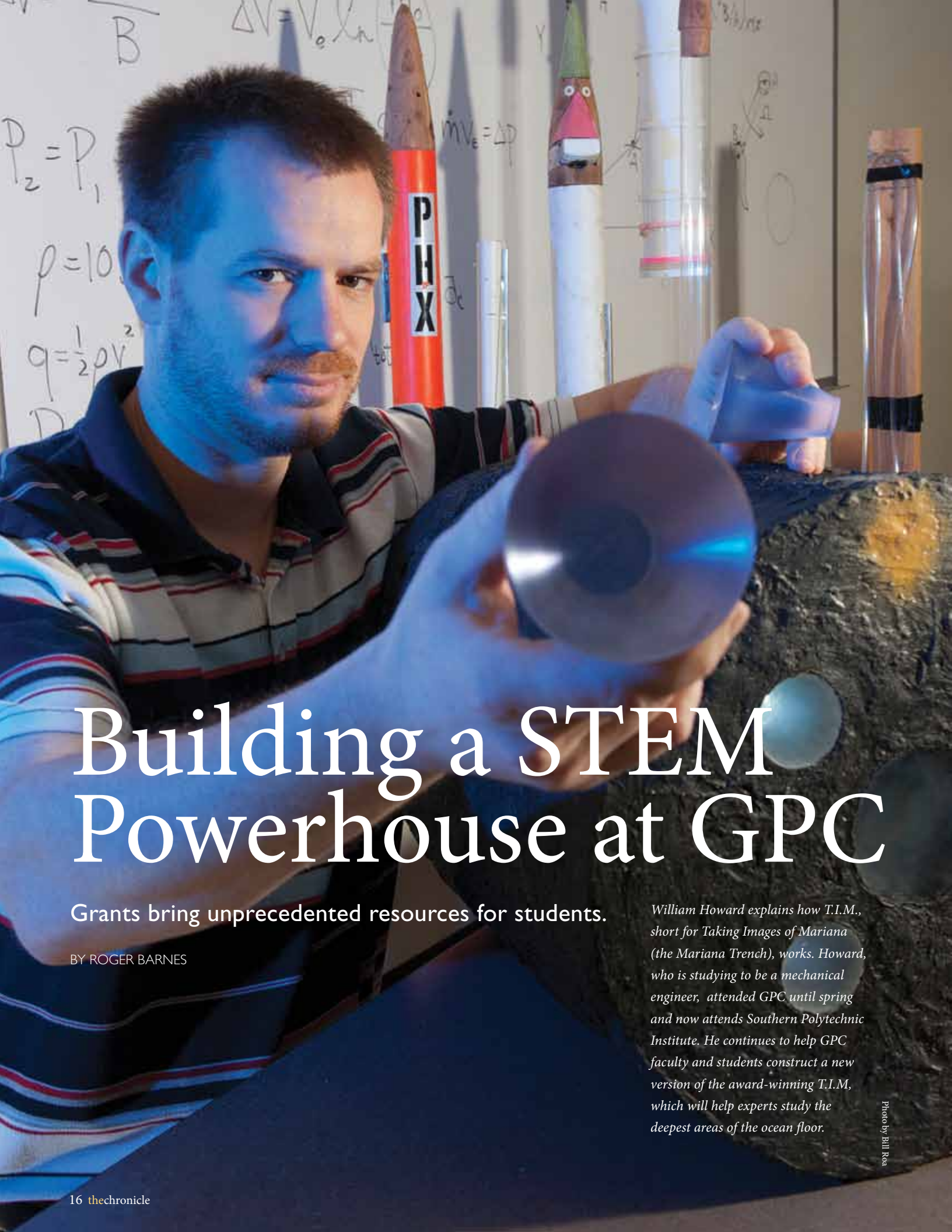
Lewkowicz’ teaching career began in Pennsylvania, where she taught high school for three years before moving to Atlanta in 1990. Lewkowicz taught on the GPC Decatur Campus for 13 years and has been on Dunwoody Campus for eight years.

She says she is constantly inspired by her GPC students.

“Although they each have a different story—some are returning to school after a long period of time, maybe working, raising a family, etc.—they all have a dream,” she says. “Every student is special and has something valuable to offer. My goal is to help students develop the confidence to believe in themselves and never give up on their dreams.”

“I truly believe that everyone can learn math, and that with patience, practice, perseverance and determination, they can reach their goals,” Lewkowicz says.

“One of the most exciting challenges for me is to help students discover the joy, wonder and beauty in mathematics.” ■



Building a STEM Powerhouse at GPC

Grants bring unprecedented resources for students.

BY ROGER BARNES

William Howard explains how T.I.M., short for Taking Images of Mariana (the Mariana Trench), works. Howard, who is studying to be a mechanical engineer, attended GPC until spring and now attends Southern Polytechnic Institute. He continues to help GPC faculty and students construct a new version of the award-winning T.I.M., which will help experts study the deepest areas of the ocean floor.

Photo by Bill Raa

Georgia Perimeter College's work to develop leaders in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) has received a powerful and unprecedented boost, thanks to four grants that will bring up to \$3.5 million to the college.

The new funding means an exciting array of science, technology, engineering and math opportunities for the college's ever-growing student population, says GPC President Dr. Anthony Tricoli.

"Georgia Perimeter College now has the resources to make a difference at the national and state level, as well as in each of the communities we serve as we prepare students from a wide diversity of backgrounds to become the scientists, innovators and STEM educators of tomorrow," Tricoli says. "GPC is now being considered as a top choice by students who want to build a solid foundation in STEM-related knowledge and understanding before transferring to their four-year colleges."

The grants guarantee \$2.6 million to GPC's STEM initiatives over the next five years, with a potential to receive \$3.5 million. The goal: to increase the number of GPC students enrolled and graduating in the high-demand fields of engineering, computer science, biology, mathematics, chemistry, physics and geology.

Awards received include:

- A National Science Foundation's STEP grant of \$1.5 million.
- A National Science Foundation's ENLISTEM grant of \$598,000.
- A National Science Foundation's Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Grant for \$4.9 million, \$275,000 of which is for GPC.
- A University System of Georgia STEP II grant for \$310,024. The college can reapply annually.

WHY ARE THESE NEW STEM DOLLARS IMPORTANT?

The number of U.S. degrees in the STEM fields has declined in recent decades, a trend that carries negative implications for the U.S. economy, industry and global competition. The decline also produces a shortage of qualified teachers for STEM subjects.

"Our country needs math and science majors because those are the areas from which our future economic growth and success will come," says Dr. Pamela Gore, GPC geology professor.

The National Science Board reported in 2010 that only 15.6 percent of the bachelor's degrees awarded in the United States over five years were in STEM fields. In China, the percentage was 46.7; in South Korea, 37.8, and in Germany, 28.1.

The Business-Higher Education Forum of 2007 estimated that the United States would need 280,000 new math and science teachers by 2015. A report to Congress indicated that 61.1 percent of U.S. high school chemistry students and 66.5 percent of physics students are taught by teachers with no academic major and certification in those fields.

In Georgia, the 2009 General Assembly boosted the salaries of first-year math and science teachers in public K-12 schools to the level of pay for sixth-year teachers. "We had to do this," said Brooks Coleman, chair of the House Education Committee.

To reverse the trends, the National Science Foundation works with institutions to recruit, support and financially assist students entering STEM fields.

Because GPC is an access institution, it can expose a broad spectrum of students to science, technology, engineering and math and widen the STEM pipeline from two-year to four-year colleges.

As Georgia's largest two-year and largest transfer institution, GPC serves more freshmen than any other institution in the state. GPC is the critical link that connects students from high school to four-year colleges; this is the time when students explore majors and make important decisions about their future. For college students, this is also the period when they need support and a strengthening of their academic foundation.

"At GPC, students get exactly what they need to be successful," says Tricoli.

In the last five years, GPC's efforts have shown significant results. Gore says the number of GPC students majoring in STEM subjects has more than doubled, jumping from 2,852 to 6,588, and rising more quickly than the overall school enrollment.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS IS ESSENTIAL

A major hurdle in attracting STEM students is the perceived difficulty of the fields.

"When I'm advising students, I ask them why they hesitate to go into the sciences, and they often answer, 'because the sciences are hard,'" says Margaret Major, GPC associate professor of biology and director of LSAMP, an alliance that recruits and encourages STEM students.

"I tell students that with the right support, such as peer-to-peer mentoring and faculty/student advising and tutoring—and with people in the sciences also available to provide accurate advising—more students should take advantage of STEM as a program of study."

GPC engineering major Gemechis Jirata understands the importance of support. That's why he appreciates the Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) program.

"I come to the MESA lab to get the assistance I need," Jirata says. "At the lab, I can find other students who are taking courses in related fields. We ask each other questions, and we learn from each other."

Here's a look at the recent STEM grants and the student opportunities they create:

BUILDING SUCCESS ONE STEP AT A TIME

Georgia Perimeter College's STEM students will receive specialized support throughout their entire GPC journey, thanks to a National Science Foundation grant of \$1.5 million over five years.

The funds, provided through the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP), will be used for a pre-college bridge program and to support students from enrollment to transfer. Internships and research, civic

engagement opportunities and college visits are among the activities included.

GPC was one of only three institutions in the nation to receive the STEP award. The grant enables the college to distribute STEM information to 500 pre-college students, recruit 30 new STEM students annually and serve 90 full-time STEM students each year. New students will participate in a summer experience that introduces them to STEM research and provides visits to four-year colleges.

ENLISTEM

The National Science Foundation's ENLISTEM project—which stands for Educate and Nurture Leadership in Science Technology, Engineering and Math—awarded \$598,000 to GPC over five years for outreach, student support and academic enrichment.

This grant provides scholarships of \$2,000 to \$5,000 to 32 STEM majors each year based on a student's needs after other financial aid has been awarded.

The goal of this grant, says GPC math professor Dr. Marjorie Lewkowicz, is to improve opportunities for students by removing financial barriers and providing support. Participants will attend seminars that involve them in intellectual discussions with STEM scholars and leaders, Lewkowicz says. Also included are career discussions, field trips to STEM organizations and industry tours with corporate partners.

"We have a huge opportunity to impact the lives of students preparing themselves for careers in STEM fields," says Brooke Skelton, GPC assistant professor of physics and astronomy.

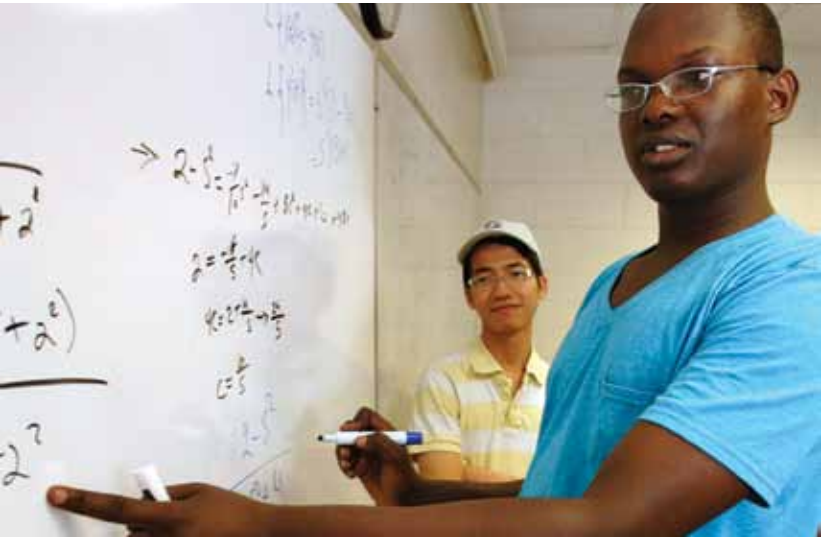
PEACH STATE LSAMP

A new LSAMP grant replaces one that ended in July. LSAMP's focus is to increase the underrepresented minority STEM students who earn bachelor's degrees within five years. The new grant awards \$4.9 million to seven institutions; GPC receives \$275,000 over five years.

LSAMP is a collaborative effort allowing students from alliance institutions to interact with each other. "Georgia Tech and Kennesaw State are now LSAMP partners," Major says. "We're the only two-year-college partner, and that makes us a feeder to all the other alliance institutions."

The grant provides for student stipends, tutoring resources, activities at partner institutions, summer bridge programs and broad research opportunities.

Courtney Lemon, an LSAMP student who graduated from Georgia Perimeter in May, is



attending Georgia Tech this fall. She fielded three offers for summer internships: geno-bio research at Washington University, pharmaceutical research at Rutgers University and diabetes research at Vanderbilt University. Lemon chose Vanderbilt.

"If we did not have programs like LSAMP, students could not seek as many opportunities outside of GPC," Major says. "By working with students from other institutions, they realize they can compete with the best."

USG STEM II GRANT

A one-year University System grant awards \$310,024 to support STEM at GPC. Georgia Perimeter College will use part of these funds to pay for a college-wide leadership position to oversee STEM and coordinate its activities and instruction. The college must re-apply for this grant each year.

"The person selected to lead this grant will be working closely with faculty who also have STEM grants. They will do this so we are certain that we are well coordinated and not duplicating our efforts," says Gore. A central person also will help with collection and organization of data. "I know this position will help us move forward."

The USG grant also provides funds for MESA initiatives and STEM mini-grants. The mini-grants allow GPC faculty to use innovative techniques to improve instructional delivery and educational outcomes. The MESA initiatives include workshops, tutoring, conferences, college visits and student stipends, says Dr. Kouok Law, GPC mathematics professor and MESA director.

"These four grants will help us to transform the futures of our students, our state and our nation. And, it's all happening right here at GPC," says Tricoli. ❤️



(Top) MESA students Abdoulaye Diallo, left, and Huong Tran work together to solve an equation. (Above) Leonard Dega, left, and Yolanda Alfro study, using peer tutoring to help each other master difficult material.

BETTY MOLLOY MENTOR AND MODEL FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY

by Rebecca Rakoczy

The young scientist needed fertilized eggs for a classroom experiment, but the Georgia farmer didn't want a woman in his hen house.

It didn't matter that she had just finished her doctorate in microbiology at Emory University. It was the early 1970s, and the idea of a woman scientist was "still an old-fashioned notion," says Dr. Betty Molloy.

"I was told to wait with the women who were shelling peas in the yard. ... They looked at me suspiciously, and asked if I was married."

Molloy chuckles at the episode. It was one of the few times when she felt out of place in her profession.

Still, she got the eggs.

"Today women are getting into all areas of science, but I guess I was a minority in my field at the time," Molloy said. Among her mentors was her mother, who held a bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1939 but left her career to raise a family.

Molloy, who retired from Georgia Perimeter College in June, spent 34 years as researcher, biology professor and college administrator. During her tenure, she headed countless projects; recently she was key liaison for GPC's Transfer Admission Guarantee program, helping form ties with four-year institutions across the nation.

When she joined the faculty of then-DeKalb College in 1977, she was part of a team of seven part-time instructors who taught college classes at Dunwoody High School. Like many of her peers, she juggled family and work, spending time with her husband and raising three children in between teaching classes and labs.

Molloy loved teaching first-generation college students but also saw the hurdles they faced. "In many of their circumstances, they had little parental support—it was important that faculty mentor them," she says.

Over the years she has mentored countless students in math and science, while rising through the ranks to become a campus dean of academic services and, later, assistant vice president in the Office of Academic Affairs for the entire college.

Molloy helped write the Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority

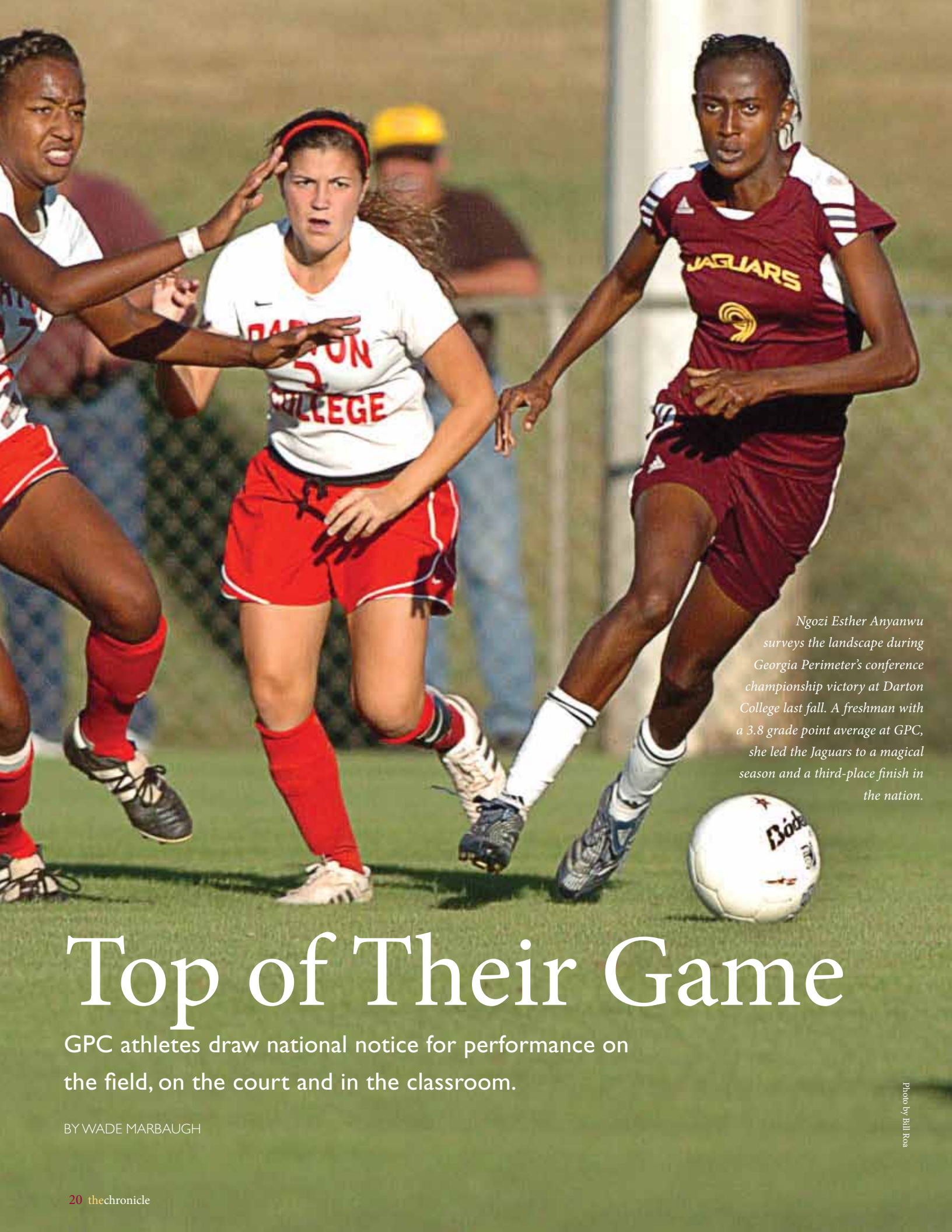
Participation grant, which encourages minority students to pursue careers in the sciences and mathematics.

While students have benefited from Molloy's teaching, Dr. Virginia Michelich, former vice president of Academic Affairs, credits Molloy's ability to mentor faculty as one of her best traits.

"I met her and found an immediate kinship, as we were both scientists," says Michelich, who now is assistant vice chancellor for student achievement for the Georgia Board of Regents. "She is caring and knew how to best mentor her faculty members so that they too would succeed."

Former DeKalb College/GPC President Dr. Marvin Cole is also among Molloy's admirers. "She was so secure within herself and her field that she was ready to speak out for what needed to be done to improve classroom activities and the college," he says.

Molloy says she has "loved every moment" of her career at GPC but is looking forward to being a GPC retiree, spending time with her grandchildren—and traveling. "I already have plane tickets to Yosemite," she says. ❤️



Ngozi Esther Anyanwu surveys the landscape during Georgia Perimeter's conference championship victory at Darton College last fall. A freshman with a 3.8 grade point average at GPC, she led the Jaguars to a magical season and a third-place finish in the nation.

Top of Their Game

GPC athletes draw national notice for performance on the field, on the court and in the classroom.

BY WADE MARBAUGH

Photo by Bill Roa

During a preseason practice in August 2010, Bruno Kalonji, Georgia Perimeter College women's soccer head coach, expressed noticeable confidence in his talented core of returning sophomores and a host of outstanding recruits. He seemed especially excited about Esther Anyanwu, Marbel Egwuenu and Linda Chukwuji.

Kalonji pointed toward Anyanwu—a tall, slender, graceful forward—and whispered to a sideline observer, “She’ll score 40 goals this season.”

She scored 49, led the nation in scoring, helped the team leap into the national spotlight and was selected to the All-America first team. Chukwuji and Egwuenu made the All-America second team.

The confidence and can-do attitude Kalongi expressed permeates the Georgia Perimeter athletic department these days. It can be seen in coaches and players. It can be felt.

GPC's intercollegiate sports programs are drawing national notice not only for winning championships, but also for developing successful study habits and strong character in student-athletes.

One by one, coaches at the college have built—or rebuilt—programs to compete on the national stage. Along the way, scores of quality players have worn the GPC uniform, but the 2010-11 academic year produced a phenomenal number of individual honors.

Nine Jaguars—five women and four men—were named to their respective sports' All-America team by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

“Our coaches communicate the importance of a positive, successful attitude on the court and in the classroom as well,” says Dr. Anthony Tricoli, president of Georgia Perimeter. “Athletically and academically, it currently is one of the most successful two-year college athletic programs in the country, and that has never been more evident than in the past year.”

Four players on GPC's women's soccer team made the NJCAA Division 1 All-America team. In addition to Anyanwu, Chukwuji, Egwuenu—international freshmen from Lagos, Nigeria, and there is Tori Klingensmith of Loganville, who turned down lucrative soccer scholarship offers to pursue her career interest at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine. The fifth Jaguar female athlete honored nationally is softball pitching ace Christina Ezell.

GPC's male All-Americans were Boubacar Toure (soccer), Salif Kante and Ismail Lemtouni (tennis) and Clay Garner (baseball).

SPORTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Along with winning and developing decorated athletes, a primary goal of Georgia Perimeter's athletic department is to move student-athletes on to four-year institutions to complete

their bachelor's degrees. Forty-one Georgia Perimeter athletes, including 14 men's soccer players, inked scholarships to play at four-year institutions this fall. Coaches say most athletes without scholarships also will transfer but won't participate in varsity sports.

“It has always been our practice to emphasize the importance of academic success to our student-athletes,” says Alfred Barney, director of the athletic department. “When athletes complete their stay here, they hold greater appeal to college recruiters and coaches at four-year institutions. College coaches don't want players who don't make the grade. We make sure our athletes hit the books.”

To illustrate Barney's point, women's soccer sophomore forward Taiwo Adeshigbin broke the career scoring record at GPC while playing alongside Anyanwu—163 points (66 goals, 31 assists). Impressive statistics, but Adeshigbin also earned a 3.4 grade point average. She signed a full scholarship to play at the University of Missouri.

Two of Barney's top returning men's basketball sophomores, Musa Abdul-Aleem (Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association Freshman Player of the Year) and his twin, Muhammad, last year posted 3.4 and 3.6 grade point averages, respectively. They will be courted heavily by scouts and coaches this season.

James Waldon, women's basketball head coach, published an academic handbook that outlines rigorous rules for his players—attending study halls and submitting frequent progress reports from teachers, among other routines. Results: Nicole Wells posted a 3.46 GPA and signed with Wichita State University; she will be joined there by Jasmine Jones; four other former Jaguars will play at four-year colleges this season.

The other coaches apply similar monitoring techniques. Seven of last spring's 16 softball players maintained grade point averages above 3.0. The women's soccer team boasted an unusual number of players with high GPAs, including Anyanwu, Chukwuji and Klingensmith and Egnueni at 4.0.

WOMEN'S SOCCER SETS PACE

GPC's four women's soccer All-Americans led a team that rocketed from also-ran in Georgia's two-year college conference to a third-place finish in the national tournament in Kalonji's third season as head coach.

“This is a tremendous team accomplishment—four All-Americans. How often does a team do that?” says Kalonji.

The answer is: only once before at Georgia Perimeter. GPC's 2000 national championship tennis team produced six All-Americans. The men's soccer team has produced three All-Americans three times—in 2004, 2006 and 2007.

“It was a phenomenal season for a women's soccer team that had but one winning season in the past decade, the previous season,” says Barney. “Many athletes come and leave colleges

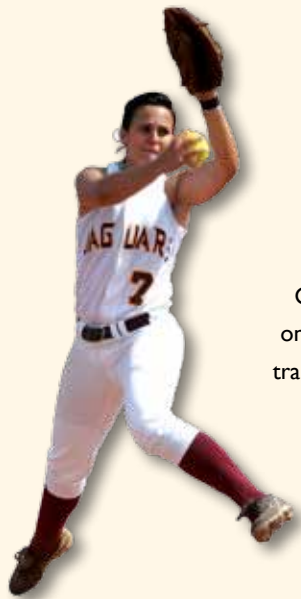
LINDA CHUKWUJI

Both offensively and defensively, midfielder Linda Chukwuji, a 3.1 student, was a leader in the Jaguars' championship season. She scored six goals and handed out 11 assists for a total of 23 points.



CHRISTINA EZELL

With a rising fastball that stymied opposing hitters, workhorse Christina Ezell turned in extra duty on a shorthanded pitching staff. She's transferring to a softball powerhouse, Jacksonville State University.



SALIF KANTE

A leader on and off the court, Salif Kante captured the national No. 1 singles championship and also took the doubles title with partner Ismail Lemtouni. Undefeated in his sophomore season, he was the conference player of the year.



BOUBACAR TOURE

Boubacar Toure led the Jaguars to a national runner-up trophy in 2009 and was fifth in the nation in scoring last year. Transferring to Appalachian State University, he's one of 12 teammates moving on to play at four-year schools.

without knowing how it feels to be champions and All-Americans."

Among the team's season highlights:

- Anyanwu achieved the first 100-point season in GPC history—49 goals and 14 assists for 112 points.
- Midfielder Chukwuji finished with six goals and 11 assists for 23 points and was instrumental in setting up a high-powered front line that included Anyanwu and Adeshigbin, the nation's fourth-leading scorer.
- Goalkeeper Egwuenu ranked fifth in the country with a 0.31 goals-against average and 16 shutouts.
- Klingensmith earned All-America honorable mention after spearheading a defense that allowed only 10 goals all season.

ALL-AMERICA: 'QUITE AN HONOR'

GPC's softball pitching ace, Christina Ezell, from Senoia, was named to the All-America second team after a sophomore season in which she pitched 11 shutouts and two perfect games.

"We may never see another pitcher like Christina," coach Ed Schutte says of the right-hander who led the nation in strikeouts per inning her freshman year, struck out a school-record 662 batters in two seasons and posted a record of 44-14.

"Thousands of athletes played junior college softball, and to be named in the top 30 or so is quite an honor," the coach added.

MAKING THE NATIONALS

Aside from women's soccer, two other Jaguar teams advanced to their national tournaments during the 2010-11 academic year—men's tennis and women's basketball.

The men's tennis team finished seventh in the country and in the process produced two All-Americans, Kante and Lemtouni.

Kante, a sophomore and native of Senegal, won the top-flight singles national championship and teamed with Lemtouni to claim the doubles title. Lemtouni, a freshman from Morocco, was beaten in the second-flight singles championship final.

Kante was undefeated for the season as coach Mohamed "Reda" Nait Omar, in his fourth season as head coach, delivered on his plan to rebuild the program to national prominence.

"This shows the program is back to where it was once before," says Nait Omar, noting the Jaguars' four consecutive national championships in 1998-2001. "We've given notice that the Jaguars are back in tennis."

MEN'S SOCCER AND BASEBALL

The Jaguars' other two male All-Americans came from teams that fell a couple of victories short of making their national tournaments.

Toure, a sophomore soccer forward from Decatur, was another first team All-American. He was second in the conference, the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association—also known as Region 17 of the NJCAA—in scoring with 66 points (21 goals, 24 assists). But the Jaguars lost 1-0 to Darton College in the semifinals of the

conference tournament, ending a streak of appearances in the nationals under veteran coach Marc Zagara.

Toure also led the Jaguars in scoring in 2009 (15 goals, nine assists) while national runners-up to Tyler College of Texas. It was the sixth consecutive trip to nationals by Zagara's teams, a streak that includes a national championship and three runner-up trophies.

Baseball pitcher Garner was an honorable mention All-American as the Jaguars won the GCAA regular season and tournament championships.

Garner, a freshman lefthander from Loganville, was the workhorse on the Jaguars' staff, striking out 78 batters in 73 innings. He finished with a 9-2 record, tied for the lead in victories in the GCAA, and had an earned run average of 3.08.

Catcher Scott Sarratt, also won a prestigious national honor—the Rawlings Gold Glove as the best defensive catcher in the country. He started 35 games and didn't commit an error. Only nine players in the nation earn a Gold Glove award each year.

CULTIVATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

GPC's women's basketball team lost its opening game at nationals to eventual champion North Idaho College, but the Jaguars bounced back with three straight wins, finishing seventh in the tournament.

Coach Waldon's relentless emphasis on teamwork and ball-sharing meant that individuals didn't pile up the statistics that get national notice, but they won scholarships, as evidenced by the six sophomores signing to play at four-year schools.

AWARD-WINNING LEADERSHIP

Three Georgia Perimeter coaches—Waldon, Kalonji and baseball coach Danny Blue—were named GCAA Coach of the Year in 2010-11. Nait Omar was named region Coach of the Year by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, which coordinates events with the NJCAA.

GPC's coaches have garnered 17 coach-of-the-year awards in the past five years. Zagara received the ultimate honor; he was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame in 2009, joining former GPC coaches Bill Kemp and Joyce Garrett in receiving the honor.

During the same five-year stretch, the athletic department collected 33 championship trophies, made 13 trips to nationals and produced 23 All-Americans.

In college sports, success usually breeds more success. With five All-Americans and other talented players returning for their sophomore seasons, with highly touted recruits arriving and with a diligent emphasis on academics, the 2011-12 outlook for Jaguar sports—including classroom performance—is bright.

Follow the Jaguars: www.gpc.edu/athletic, on Facebook at Georgia Perimeter College Sports or on Twitter: @GPCsports. 📺

CLAY GARNER

Lefthander Clay Garner parlayed smart pitching, varied pitches and good control into a 9-2 record, striking out more than one batter per inning. He fanned twelve batters in five innings in his college debut.



TORI KLINGENSMITH

After an exceptional season at midfield in 2009, Tori Klingensmith moved to the back line. She led an ironclad defense that produced 16 shutouts and allowed only 75 shots on goal and 10 goals in 25 games.



MARBEL EGWUENU

Straight-A student Marbel Egwuenu ranked fifth in the nation among goalkeepers with a 0.31 goals-against average, the number of goals allowed for every 90 minutes played. She allowed only nine goals in 25 games and posted 16 shutouts.



ISMAIL LEMTOUNI

The top six players on each tennis team at nationals play for singles championships, and three doubles teams vie for titles. Ismail Lemtouni won the top-flight doubles crown and was runnerup in No. 2 singles.



MEN’S TENNIS TEAM FINISHES SEVENTH IN NATION

The idea was for Georgia Perimeter College to return to national prominence in men’s tennis. Mission accomplished.

Led by undefeated Salif Kante, who delivered national championships in singles and doubles, the Jaguars finished seventh in the National Junior College Athletic Association tournament in Plano, Texas.

Kante, the Jaguars’ super sophomore from Senegal, defeated Jair Assuncao of Laredo (Texas) Community College. Assuncao retired with an injury with Kante leading 5-1.

Kante also teamed with freshman Ismail Lemtouni to win the NJCAA doubles championship, defeating Alex Sanders and Michael Tymkiw of Collin (Texas) College 2-6, 7-6, 6-2. As a result of their victories, Kante and Lemtouni made the NJCAA All-America first team.

“This shows the program is back to

where it was once before,” head coach Mohamed “Reda” Nait Omar said.

The Jaguars once won four consecutive national championships from 1998 to 2001. They were runners-up in 2003 and ’04, but down years followed. Nait Omar sought to restore the program’s luster.

Christian Bellina, a sophomore battling injury, made it all the way to the consolation final of the No. 3 singles flight. Other Jaguars winning matches at nationals were Jeremy Dunham, Ramin Zamani and Brian Le.

Kante additionally won the NJCAA



Salif Kante, middle; Ismail Lemtouni, fifth from right; and coach Mohamed Nait Omar, right, led GPC to an outstanding season.

Region 17 Most Valuable Player award and received the Intercollegiate Tennis Association senior Player of the Year award for the region. The ITA named Nait-Omar region coach of the year.

To read more, visit gpc.edu/athletic/mtennis

SOFTBALL TEAM WINS 30 FOR FIFTH STRAIGHT YEAR

The Georgia Perimeter College softball team came within one run of achieving back-to-back trips to the National Junior College Athletic Association tournament in 2011. The Jaguars (30-13) definitely possessed national-level talent.

Though Darton College beat GPC 2-1 in the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association championship game, the Jaguars won 30 games for the fifth consecutive season.

Christina Ezell won a spot on the All-America second team. The sophomore right-handed pitcher also was named conference MVP for the second straight year. She was 21-8 with a 0.79 earned run average and 328 strikeouts in 212 innings.

Ezell’s strikeouts per inning, 1.59,

ranked second in the nation. She whiffed 662 batters in two seasons, a GPC record.

Another standout, freshman shortstop Kacie Patterson, was the GCAA batting champion with a nationally ranked .469 average and a team-leading 26 runs batted in. She joined Ezell on the all-region first team.

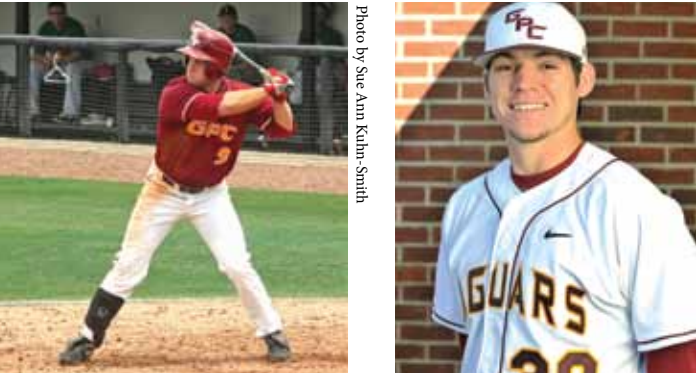
“She’s a phenomenal shortstop,” GPC coach Ed Schutte said. “She’s a potential MVP next year.”

Kaitlyn Smith, a freshman who hit .346 during the regular season with 15 RBIs, made the all-region second team. Sophomore first baseman Jamie Saunders, who hit .374, was selected to the all-



Kacie Patterson, a flawless freshman shortstop, led the Jaguars and the conference in hitting.

tournament team, along with Ezell and Patterson.



Kenny Straus, left, won a coveted offer to play professional baseball, and Scott Sarratt earned a national Gold Glove award with an errorless season.

BASEBALL WINS CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Twelve years in the making, Georgia Perimeter’s first baseball tournament championship was the perfect blend of timely hitting and slick defense. And having an All-American pitcher and a national Gold Glove catcher didn’t hurt.

With left-hander Clay Garner, the honorable mention All-American, leading the way, the Jaguars (47-17) claimed their second regular-season conference championship in three years. They next won the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association tournament championship—the first since 1999—and advanced to the NJCAA East Central District tournament in Morristown, Tenn., where they ended their season.

Catcher Scott Sarratt earned the national Rawlings Gold Glove Award at his position and was named the GCAA Defensive Player of the Year. Head coach Danny Blue received his second conference Coach of the Year award.

Garner, a freshman, was 9-2 with a 3.08 earned run average and 78 strikeouts.

The Seattle Mariners drafted sophomore outfielder Kenny Straus in the Major League Baseball draft. Straus, a left-handed hitter with a .350 batting average, was a first-team all-conference selection, along with Garner, outfielder Kendall Lacey and second baseman Felton James. First baseman Jamie McMillan made the second team.

Another freshman pitcher, Antonio Allen, earned the tournament Most Valuable Player award. Joining him on the all-tournament team were Straus, James, Lacey, shortstop McLendon Hill and third baseman Garitt Church.

At one point in the season, the Jaguars had a 14-game winning streak and were ranked 13th nationally, believed to be their highest ranking since at least 1999.



Sadia Mayou

Along with Mayou, No. 1 singles Salma Dahbi will return, providing a strong nucleus for the 2012 campaign. And the new recruits include Idia Amen, a top 20 player from Texas. . . . **The men’s and women’s soccer teams** had to travel to Albany for conference tournaments in recent seasons. Not so this fall—GPC will host the tournaments at the end of October. Winners advance to the National Junior College Athletic Association District F tournament and then on to nationals. . . . **Forty-one Jaguar athletes** made the leap in 2011 from the junior college level to four-year institutions with large scholarships. Among the highlights were women’s soccer player Taiwo Adeshigbin’s signing with Missouri, women’s basketball players Jasmine Jones and Nicole Wells going to Wichita State and men’s soccer leading scorer Boubacar Toure accepting a scholarship to Appalachian State . . . **Follow the Jaguars** at www.gpc.edu/athletic, and listen to audio webcasts of games by clicking on the links under “Game Webcast,” or “Webcast Archives.”



Oh, you Jaguars: Jaggy and GPC athletic director Alfred Barney had much to cheer about in 2010-2011. Four of the college’s eight teams claimed championships and three went to nationals.

PROGRAM OPENS WOMEN’S EYES TO CAREERS IN TRANSPORTATION

Adjoa Aka clutched her handbag nervously when she first walked through the doors of the Hartsfield-Jackson Development Program, the planning and development division of the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The former Georgia Perimeter College student was experiencing her first day in the Women and Girls Internship Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation/Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.

“Being chosen to participate in the internship program was better than winning the million dollar lottery because you learn skills that can propel you into a future that you never imagined,” Aka explained. “I just kept thinking how lucky I am to be here and learn so much in such a fantastic program. It opened doors for me that I never even knew existed.”

The nationwide program was created in 2009 to encourage more young women to pursue careers in transportation, said Gwendolyn Coleman Winston, project director for the U.S. Department of Transportation Mid-South Atlantic Small Business Transportation Resource Center. “Transportation is traditionally seen as a man’s profession,” she says. “WGP is a means by which young women can get exposure to career choices they might not have ever considered.”

Current workforce forecasts indicate that attrition will increase the need for new workers, says Joe Jackson, president and CEO of the Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance. “The federal government as a whole is going through a massive exit of employees and an influx of the next generation of workers. We want to make sure that women play a vital role in the transportation industry now and in the future.”

Thanks to the efforts of Foundation Trustee Thomas W. Dortch Jr., Georgia Perimeter was the first community college to participate in the program, Winston says. Fourteen colleges signed letters of intent for the program’s Mid-South Atlantic division, which covers Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Six GPC students participated in the 2010 fall semester, and two—Aka and Phebe Dowels—were invited back for spring internships. They each received a \$1,000 stipend for participating.

“We worked hard to get our students in the program because careers in transportation are essential to helping our world become environmentally friendly by finding alternative methods of transportation and energy consumption—issues of great importance to Georgia Perimeter College” says Tracey Knight, GPC’s director of strategic partnerships for access programs. “WGP also helps students make informed decisions about their career choices and helps them develop important contacts for the future.”

Participants must have at least a 2.8 GPA, must submit a letter of interest and an evaluation by a faculty member, and must be interviewed, Winston said.

The GPC students exhibited a tremendous work ethic and enthusiasm, Jackson said. “The Georgia Perimeter students knew exactly what they wanted to get out of the internship and what they



From left, Joe Jackson, president and CEO of the Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance; GPC interns Phebe Dowels and Adjao Aka, and Gwendolyn Coleman Winston, project director for the U.S. Department of Transportation Mid-South Atlantic Small Business Transportation Resource Center.

want for their futures,” he said. “It was clear that they were taking advantage of the relationships that GPC has with other institutions and with our agency.”

In addition to the airport, interns worked at MARTA, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Georgia and Tennessee departments of transportation, private suppliers and law firms.

“I not only gained hands-on experience, but I met people in the profession whom I would never have met had I not participated in WGP,” said Dowels, a journalism major. “Now, I’m considering a career in the transportation industry. There are so many options that there is room within the field for any major.”

Aka, who is now majoring in industrial engineering at Georgia Tech, said WGP helped her decide to pursue a career in transportation. “I can’t wait to make an impact in the field,” she said. “In turn, I plan to help others in my community learn of all the wonderful opportunities open to them in transportation.”



Scholarship recipients, front, from left, Denetra Robinson, Tomika Lugo and Aubrey-Rain Kekiwi gather with, back, from left, EWI Atlanta Chapter President Verla Calhoun Kelley and Corporate EWI President Sharon Bennett at the scholarship dinner in June.

EWI AND GPC CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP TO EDUCATE STUDENTS

Executive Women International looks for students with courage. Georgia Perimeter College seeks scholarships for its students. The two visions collided 15 years ago with a fruitful partnership that benefits students.

Three students each recently received an EWI Atlanta Chapter’s ASIST—Adult Students in Scholastic Transition—scholarship. The awards were made in June at the Atlanta chapter’s annual scholarship dinner, held for the first time at GPC—in Clarkston.

Student Tomika Lugo hopes to one day open a shelter for runaways. Aubrey-Rain Kekiwi, who also won a national EWI scholarship for \$2,000, wants to care for the poor. Denetra Robinson dreams of delivering healthy babies.

“The common thread among the award recipients is courage,” says EWI national president Sharon Bennett. “We know we want to change and that we don’t have all the answers. But we have the courage to take the necessary steps.”

EWI-Atlanta celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010. The Atlanta chapter gives out three annual \$2,000 scholarships, and GPC students have received almost \$100,000 during the college’s 15-year partnership with EWI. EWI’s 60-plus chapters reaffirm their commitment to helping students each year by awarding hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships nationwide.

Lugo, Robinson and Kekiwi share a passion for serving others. “This scholarship has granted me the opportunity to pursue that passion,” Robinson says, “and I don’t take the honor lightly.”

why I give



Randy Hampton holds a photo of his late mother, Patricia Hampton.

Georgia Perimeter College provided a strong beginning for brother and sister Randy and Traci Hampton. Now they are helping the school do the same for others.

Randy, who played baseball for the college, suggested establishing a scholarship in memory of his and Traci’s mother. The Patricia Hampton Memorial Scholarship, created in

2008, is awarded to a GPC baseball team member with a GPA of 2.9 or higher. Each winner currently receives \$1,000.

The Hamptons endowed the scholarship at GPC because the college impacted both their lives. Traci attended DeKalb College in 1973 and 1974 and Randy in 1986.

“It made sense to go to a community college to get into the swing of things, instead of a four-year school where I probably wouldn’t have been successful,” Randy says. “GPC gave me a great start, and we hope to do that for other students today.”

Traci recalls being in Professor George Sanko’s classroom, learning about botany and also about the importance of a strong work ethic. She later graduated from Georgia State, but Sanko—now a GPC professor emeritus—made a lasting impression on her.

“We believed that since we are so blessed in our lives today, that it was time to give back,” she says. “The school holds a special place in our hearts.”



An Evening to Remember: Former GPC instructor Jim Rogers and his wife, Susan, relax at the Georgia Perimeter College/DeKalb College Retiree Association fundraiser June 24. The event raised more than \$5,300 for the association’s scholarship fund.

STRONG SUPPORT PAVES WAY FOR SUCCESSFUL GOLF TOURNAMENT

An incredible partnership is providing support for Georgia Perimeter College students and wonderful food as well.

For five years, Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar at Perimeter Place Village has supported GPC’s Annual George Fellows Memorial Golf Tournament, which has yielded funds for scholarships, academic and student programs and faculty/staff development. Since 1998, the tournament has generated more than \$1 million for college initiatives.

“We have always had a good working relationship on a professional and personal level with GPC,” said Erick Tousek, operating partner at Fleming’s. “We want to be part of an organization that feels the same way we do about supporting student success.”

Fleming’s provides a filet mignon dinner for more than 300 tournament

participants and volunteers, gift cards for player gift bags and gift certificates for a raffle and silent auction. The restaurant also supports GPC’s alumni and retiree associations, strengthening efforts to meaningfully connect alumni and retirees to the college.

“Fleming’s has been such a integral partner in our work, whether it’s hosting our trustees, alumni and staff at the restaurant or supporting GPC’s quality delivery through the golf tournament,” says Vicki Carew, executive director of Institutional Advancement and the GPC



Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar has provided generous support to the GPC Foundation and other college initiatives.

Foundation.

The partnership has potential to grow because Fleming’s and GPC share many interests, Carew says.

“That is one reason the partnership makes so much sense,” Carew says, “We are two organizations committed to impacting lives.”

GEAP OPENS HIGHER EDUCATION DOORS FOR LATINO AND HISPANIC STUDENTS

Jennifer Zenteno, 18, thought she would have to give up dreams of college. Then she heard that she had been accepted into the Georgia Perimeter College Educational Achievement Program.

“If it weren’t for this program, there is no way I could attend college,” Zenteno says. “GPC and the Goizueta Foundation are helping me see that success is within reach.”

GEAP, funded by a grant from the Goizueta Foundation, provides increased access and success for Hispanic/Latino students at GPC. The program, begun in 2010, is part of the college’s effort to increase opportunities for underserved members of its community.

GEAP targets financially-strapped Hispanic/Latino students who have been



GPC President Dr. Anthony Tricoli encourages GEAP scholars during orientation in July.

accepted or are enrolled at GPC. Each student receives \$500 to \$1,500 per year.

“The program makes the difference in my being able to fulfill my dream of getting a college education,” Zenteno says.

The estimated 120 GEAP scholars must maintain a 2.6 GPA, attend workshops, meet with advisors and perform community service, says GEAP Director Eric Cuevas.

“GEAP Scholars serve as role models in their families, among their peers and for the Hispanic/Latino community,” Cuevas says. “Their commitment to service and civic engagement pushes them to give back to the community, whether it be mentoring other Hispanic students or partnering with organizations such as the Latin American Association.”

Plans include visits to four-year institutions with which GPC has transfer admission guarantees.

“We want to see them succeed at GPC and beyond,” Cuevas says.

2010 ANNUAL REPORT
The Georgia Perimeter College Foundation



It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2010 Georgia Perimeter College Foundation Annual Report.

The GPC Foundation establishes a very real foundation for this college—a base of stability, support and resources that allows GPC to transform lives and enhance our community.

The economic challenges of recent years have not diminished the demand for the quality education that Georgia Perimeter College provides. Enrollment continues to climb. And, despite the economic climate, 2010 was a record year for the Foundation’s annual George Fellows Memorial Golf Tournament, which raised more than \$130,000. That money, along with your donations, provides student scholarships and resources for GPC, its faculty, staff and students to do their best work.

Though I am a newspaper publisher, my early training and experience was in education. I come from a family of educators and—before them—a grandfather whose commitment was so strong that he personally built and maintained a school because his rural community needed one. I learned early that education is not only key, but essential.

I believe in Georgia Perimeter and its important role in our region. That’s why I have for 10 years volunteered to serve on the GPC Foundation board. From its unique beginning by a public school system to its award-winning faculty and staff, GPC is a great institution. Who would not want to be involved with a college that affects so many lives?

This report will provide you financial information about the Foundation. We value the individuals who support the Foundation’s work and are proud of others whose lives have been changed because of it. With your help, we can continue to build a strong foundation for Georgia Perimeter College.

Carolyn Glenn
Publisher, The Champion Newspaper
Chair, Georgia Perimeter College Foundation

2010-2011 board of trustees



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TRICOLI
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College



LANI L. WONG
Civic Leader



STELLA XU
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Kennesaw State University



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SunTrust Bank

scholarships

ENDOWMENTS

Marvin Cole Fellowship

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Cleone Rhodes Alford Memorial Scholarship
American Legion Harold Byrd Post 66 Scholarship
Baker, Henry, and Spann Teacher Education Scholarship
Janet Barron Book Scholarship
Dr. Jacquelyn M. Belcher Scholarship
Mr. Lewis Belcher, Jr. Scholarship
Beverly Benson Scholarship
Cheryl Benz Community Service Scholarship for
ESL and International Students
Marian & Ed Bramlette Fine Arts Scholarship
Gayle Brunelle Scholarship
Eddie Butcher Memorial Scholarship
Alfred M. Byrd Business Administration Scholarship
Glenn Clark Memorial Scholarship
Marvin and Mimi Cole Scholarship
Landon Coleman Memorial Scholarship
Camille Colvin Scholarship
Agnes Delehanty Memorial Scholarship
Matthew Dittmann Eagle Scout Scholarship
Dunwoody Business Scholarship
Wilmer Eames Study Group Scholarship
Alice Jacoby Egan Memorial Scholarship
Exley/Smith Learning Support Mathematics
Scholarship
Faculty Senate Scholarship
The Helen Freise/Village Writers Group Awards
Fiction and Poetry
Mary R. Futch Scholarship
Junius & Sarah Garrison Education Scholarship
Georgia Cancer Specialists Scholarship
GPC Alumni Association Scholarship
GPC Nursing Alumni Scholarship
Gynecology and Obstetrics PC Scholarship
Charles W. Hall Memorial Scholarship
F. Lane Hardy Scholarship
The Jewell V. Hiatt and Samuel Abner Hiatt Scholarship
Fund
J. Fred Hill Decatur Honors Scholarship
Linda M. Hodges Nursing Scholarship
Norman Hollingsworth Business Scholarship
Girija Honkan Engineering Textbook Scholarship
Howey-Hudson-Lowe Scholarship
Diane P. Jennings Scholarship
Dr. Judy C. Johnston Scholarship
Kaiser Permanente Endowed Scholarship
Francine King Memorial Scholarship
Ann M. Knight Memorial Scholarship
Elisabeth Lautemann Memorial Scholarship
Lipphardt Military Merit Scholarship
Dawn Maltais Memorial Scholarship
John Manko Music Scholarship
Dr. Ken Manko Business Administration Scholarship
Stella Manko Scholarship
Wanda B. Manko Education Scholarship
Mayeux Family Perseverance Award

Kito Christian Shane McCurdy Memorial Scholarship
for International Students
Dr. Grace McNamara Scholarship
National Association of Chinese Americans Nursing
Scholarship
Evelyn Newcomb Scholarship
Newton Honors Scholarship
Northlake Regional Medical Center Scholarship
Regents Award
Selma Robinson Scholarship for Single Mothers
Shamsalzoha Rouhani Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Stone Mountain Optimist Club Scholarship
Stone Mountain Rotary Club Scholarship
Mildred Thomas Entrepreneur Scholarship
Jack and Kathleen Thornton Scholarship
Anne Tidmore Scholarship
Samuel Tricoli Memorial Scholarship Fund
Mrs. Ida M. Watson Legacy Scholarship
Charles Warren Memorial Scholarship
Sheryl Wentworth Dental Hygiene Scholarship
Johnnie Ray Williams Scholarship
Writer's Institute/Atlanta Writers Club Scholarship

NON-ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Access Asia
ALTA Tennis Scholarship
Thomas J. Anderson Memorial Scholarship
Assistance League of Atlanta Scholarship
Atlanta Dental Hygienist Society Scholarship
Baseball Scholarship
George C. Bingham Scholarship
Jessica Bryl Memorial Scholarship
Chiropractic Scholarship
Dr. Cary Christian Memorial Scholarship
Richard Clow Social Science Scholarship
DECA (DeKalb Early College Academy)
Decatur Campus Non-Endowed Scholarship
DeKalb Medical Center Foundation Scholars Program
Distance Learning Scholarship
Emory Eastside Medical Center Scholars Program
Enlace a la Meta Scholarship
Enoch-Robinson Scholarship
Enrollment Management Scholarship
Executive Women International Scholarship
Dominic F. Falcetta Sr. Scholarship
Fasse Dental Hygiene Scholarship
Film Studies Scholarship
Emile T. Fisher Scholarship
Edward Fitzpatrick Jr. Photography Scholarship
Daisy Friday & Lucile House Visual Arts Scholarship
Gateway to College Academy Scholarship
Aleyamma George Memorial Scholarship
Georgia Beer Wholesalers Association
Georgia Interpreting Services Scholarship
Goizuetta Educational Achievement Scholarship
GPC Challenge Book Scholarship
GPC Dental Hygiene Alumni Scholarship
GPC Foundation Scholarship

GPC Foundation-USG STEM Merit-Based Scholarship
GPC General Scholarship
GPC Mathematics Conference Scholarship
GPC Retirees Association Student Scholarship
GPC Upward Bound Scholarship
Grady Health Systems Scholar Program
HCA/HSF Hispanic Scholars Program
Pamela K. Hecht Memorial Scholarship
Patricia Hampton Memorial Scholarship
Hart Scholarship
Larry Landis Henly Memorial Scholarship
Honors Program Scholarship
Jaguar Book Scholarship
David & Anita Kaufman Study Abroad Scholarship
Coach Bill & Jo Kemp Scholarship
Edmond T. Kemp Seeds of Promise Scholarship
Gerry King Second Chance Scholarship for Women
of Color
Leadership Academy Scholars Fund
Lost Boys Foundation Scholars Program
Robert and Joan Loewenthal Physics Prize
Math Scholarships-all campuses
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independent auditor's report

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.

We have audited the Statement of Financial Position of GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC. (a non-profit organization) as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. The financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC. as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 and the results of its activities and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were made for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The additional information on page 14* is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

June 21, 2011

Simmons & Jamieson, P.C.

*The full audit can be viewed at gpc.edu/Foundation/Audit&Statements/Audit2010gpc.pdf

Georgia Perimeter College Foundation, Inc.
statement of financial position, December 31, 2010

ASSETS

Current Assets:	
Cash and equivalents.....	\$1,214,026
Contributions receivable.....	62,172
Accrued interest receivable.....	2,029
Accrued rent receivable.....	-0-
Investments	619,426
Prepaid expense	14,033
Restricted assets:	
Cash and equivalents	1,611,369
Accrued interest receivable	4,431
Investments	732,881
Total current assets.....	\$4,260,367

Property and Equipment:

Land	3,000,000
Parking structures	16,943,119
Buildings	59,093,793
Furniture & fixtures	2,478,125
	81,515,037
Less accumulated depreciation	(5,323,411)
	\$76,191,626

Other Assets:

Bond issuance costs, net.....	1,392,704
Other.....	4,000
	1,396,704
Total assets	\$81,848,697

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$50,487
Retainage payable.....	169,429
Accrued interest payable	368,130
Deferred rental income	123,972
Current portion of revenue bonds payable	915,000
Total current liabilities.....	1,627,018

Revenue bonds payable, less current portion	75,170,000
--	------------

Net Assets:

Unrestricted:	
Undesignated	357,483
Temporarily restricted	994,511
Permanently restricted	3,699,685
Total net assets.....	\$5,051,679

Total liabilities and net assets	\$81,848,697
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Georgia Perimeter College Foundation, Inc.
statement of activities for the year ending December 31, 2010

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT:				
Contributions	\$321,010	\$126,441	\$21,952	\$469,403
Special events	40,339	-0-	-0-	40,339
Investment income (loss)	9,420	10,098	63,718	83,236
Contributed goods and services	165,559	-0-	-0-	165,559
Program service revenue (rent)	-0-	3,982,034	-0-	3,982,034
Net assets released from restriction	4,015,000	(4,105,000)	-0-	-0-
Total revenues, gains and other support	\$4,551,328	\$103,573	\$85,670	\$4,740,571
EXPENSES AND LOSSES				
PROGRAM SERVICES:				
Student aid, scholarships, and awards	166,834	-0-	-0-	166,834
Newton Co. Development	776,675	-0-	-0-	\$776,675
Goizueta Ed. Ach.	32,494	-0-	-0-	32,494
GPC Athletics	12,291	-0-	-0-	12,291
Nursing Alumni	4,157	-0-	-0-	4,157
Kaiser Health Plan	34,693	-0-	-0-	34,693
MLK Celebration	53,501	-0-	-0-	53,501
GPC Newton Campus bond expense	1,780,713	-0-	-0-	1,780,713
GPC Student Support bond expense	3,752,412	-0-	-0-	3,752,412
Other	32,469	-0-	-0-	32,469
Total Program Services	\$6,646,239	-0-	-0-	\$6,646,239
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES:				
Management and general	322,799	-0-	-0-	322,799
fund-raising	44,955	-0-	-0-	44,955
Total supporting services	\$367,754	-0-	-0-	\$367,754
Total expenses and losses	\$7,013,993	-0-	-0-	\$7,013,993
Changes in net assets	(\$2,462,665)	\$103,573	\$85,670	(\$2,273,422)
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$2,820,148	\$890,938	\$3,614,015	\$7,325,101
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$357,483	\$994,511	\$3,699,685	\$5,051,679

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Change in net assets.....	(\$2,273,422)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation expense.....	2,303,015
Amortization expense	56,131
Unrealized (gain) loss on investment.....	19,590
(Increase) decrease in operating assets:	
Contributions receivable	(31,502)
Prepaid expense.....	13,467
Investments.....	25,168
Accrued receivables.....	756,960
Increase (decrease) in operating liabilities	
Accounts payable	(326,065)
Retainage payable	66,146
Accrued interest payable.....	91,058
Other current liabilities.....	26,022
Net Cash Provided (Utilized) by Operating Activities.....	726,568
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	
Construction in progress conversion.....	-0-
Acquisition/purchase of fixed assets.....	(85,122)
Purchase/disposition of investments, net.....	(157,255)
Net Cash Provided (Utilized) by Investing Activities.....	(\$242,377)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Proceeds from bond issuance - GPC Student Support.....	430,000
Payment on bond issuance - GPC Foundation Newton	(465,000)
Net Cash Provided (Utilized) by Financing Activities.....	(35,000)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND EQUIVALENTS.....	449,191
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR.....	2,376,204
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR.....	2,825,395
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES	
Cash paid for income taxes	-0-
Cash paid for interest.....	\$3,044,668

fundraising comparisons

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION HISTORY 2000 - 2010

Fiscal Year Ending Dec. 31

2010	<div></div>	\$469,403
2009	<div></div>	\$1,083,724
2008	<div></div>	\$841,203
2007	<div></div>	\$987,388
2006	<div></div>	\$1,270,579
2005	<div></div>	\$3,322,722*

Fiscal Year Ending June 30

2004	<div></div>	\$865,237
2003	<div></div>	\$548,520
2002	<div></div>	\$481,234
2001	<div></div>	\$158,967
2000	<div></div>	\$119,972

* Includes gift of land for Newton Campus

CURRENT INVESTMENT REPORT

Investment Income, 2000 - 2010

2010	<div></div>	\$83,236
2009	<div></div>	\$107,131
2008	<div></div>	(\$75,881)
2007	<div></div>	\$400,199
2006	<div></div>	\$1,042,601
2005	<div></div>	\$25,742
2004	<div></div>	\$34,760
2003	<div></div>	\$9,043
2002	<div></div>	(\$14,927)
2001	<div></div>	\$20,174
2000	<div></div>	\$24,892

2010 statistics

Total Enrollment

Head count: 25,113
Full-time equivalents: 19,014

Enrollment by Campus
(duplicated head count*)

Alpharetta: 1,653
Clarkston: 6,892
Decatur: 3,610
Dunwoody: 8,968
Rockdale/Newton: 2,674
Distance Learning: 8,153

Student Classification

Freshman: 14,728
Sophomore: 8,789
Dual Enrollment: 897
Transient: 253
Other: 446

* Duplicated head count: A GPC student may have attended more than one campus location. In such a case, the student is counted once in each location category where they attended. As a result, if all the campus location category head counts were added together, their sum would be larger than overall GPC headcount due to this duplication.

Enrollment by Type of
Residency and Tuition Status

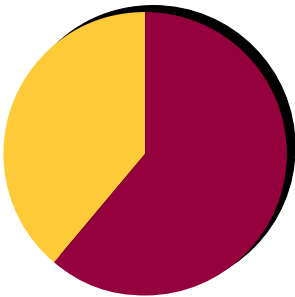
Georgia residents: 23,039
Out-of-state: 1,539
Non-Resident Tuition Waived: 535

New Student Enrollment
by Classification

Beginning freshman: 4,145
Transfer freshman: 2,188
Dual Enrollment: 841
Transient: 144
Other: 237
Total: 7,555

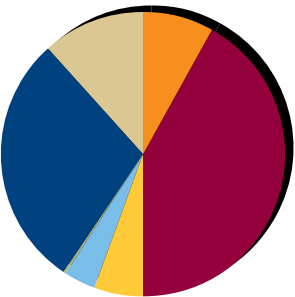
Students Enrolled in
Learning Support

Reading: 1,118
English: 1,483
Math: 4,821
Total (Unduplicated): 5,427



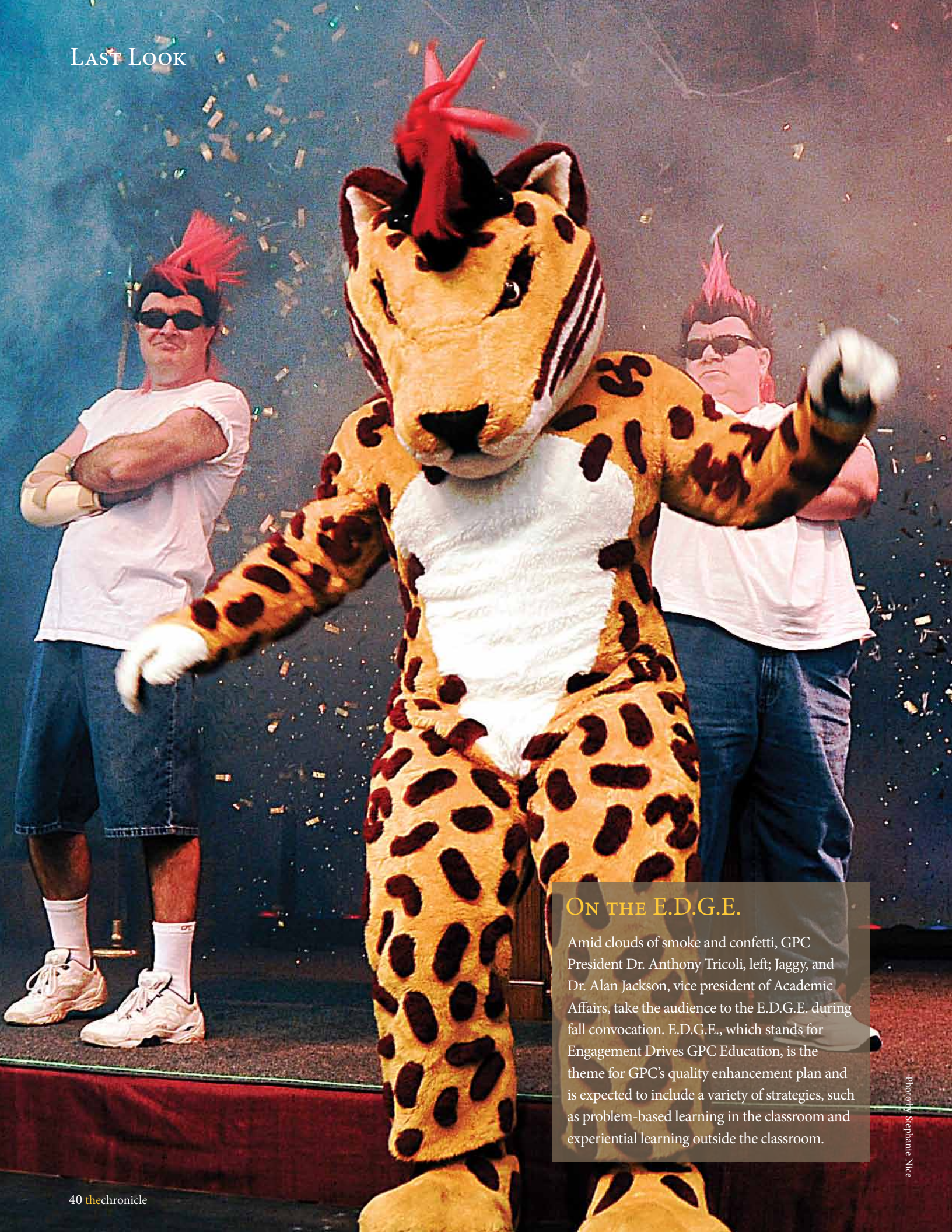
STUDENT GENDER

Female: 61.5%
Male: 38.5%



ETHNIC DIVERSITY

African-American: 40.8%
Asian: 7.8%
Hispanic: 6.5%
Multiracial: 3%
Native American: 0.3%
Unknown/Undeclared: 12%
White: 29.6%



ON THE E.D.G.E.

Amid clouds of smoke and confetti, GPC President Dr. Anthony Tricoli, left; Jaggy, and Dr. Alan Jackson, vice president of Academic Affairs, take the audience to the E.D.G.E. during fall convocation. E.D.G.E., which stands for Engagement Drives GPC Education, is the theme for GPC's quality enhancement plan and is expected to include a variety of strategies, such as problem-based learning in the classroom and experiential learning outside the classroom.

Photo by Stephanie Nice

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